



Daily Report

East Asia

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Cairns Group Meeting Opens; EEC Criticized
*BK1703122689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1145 GMT
17 Mar 89*

[By Suzanne Pollard]

[Text] Waitangi, New Zealand, March 17 (AFP)—Members of the Cairns Group of agricultural nations supporting free trade condemned the EEC's inflexible stand on reforming farm trade as they began a ministerial meeting here Friday [17 March].

Australian Trade Negotiations Minister Michael Duffy, who leads the 14-nation group, also said EEC intransigence threatened to derail the Uruguay Round of talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Cairns Group is meeting here to hammer out its stand for next month's crucial meeting of GATT members following a breakdown of the mid-term review of the Uruguay Round in Montreal in December.

Mr. Duffy noted that the review was stalled by a standoff between the European Economic Community and the United States over farm subsidies and prices supports. Washington has since made real concessions but Brussels has failed to show any flexibility, he said.

The EEC has informed all members of the group in Geneva "that the only way to achieve reductions in support is through the use of aggregate measures."

Brussels has also refused to make commitments "which impose discipline over the fundamental elements of the common agricultural policy," he said.

"Further, they are saying that credit for reform of that policy since 1984 must be given as part of any short-term package," he said.

"If this was to be the extent of the imagination and flexibility which the EEC can bring to these negotiations, then I am afraid that there will be no result on agriculture in April.

"In that case, we could well be looking at the beginning of the end of the Uruguay Round," he said. "I don't think that is an overstatement in any way."

A last-minute initiative by Latin American members succeeded in having all agreements put on hold to allow time for the resolution of agriculture and three other issues. These involve textiles, protection of intellectual property rights and temporary trade restrictions to protect domestic industry.

The Colombian delegation made it clear Friday it wanted the final communique of the Waitangi meeting to support a continuation of this strategy at Geneva.

"This strategy has now shown its usefulness," Colombian Agriculture Minister Gabriel Rosas Vega said. Echoing the statements of other delegations, Mr. Rosas said the solution to the huge debt problem facing Colombia and other nations was not more loans or an easing of repayment arrangements.

"We want to be allowed to sell freely what we produce, and allowed to make enough money to fund our own development," he said.

"What we are demanding is not a generous donation from the U.S. or from Europe or from Japan," Mr. Rosas said.

"We want to be in control of our own destinies and for that, it is essential we have free access to world markets, especially in agricultural products."

Argentina's Special Representative for International Trade Negotiations Bernardo Grinspun said 10 percent of his country's gross domestic product would be spent on debt servicing in 1989.

A lack of economic growth was causing big social problems in Argentina, which would be greatly alleviated if farm trade was freed, Mr. Grinspun said.

The Latin American nations all made strong commitments to maintaining the unity of the Cairns Group, averting fears that their action at Montreal could signal a split in the diverse group.

The group comprises New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Uruguay. It wants a freeze on current agricultural support policies and a commitment to long-term liberalisation of trade in agriculture.

The EEC's public position remains that any freeze on prices and subsidies within the community must be on the basis of its historically high 1984 levels.

The United States and the Cairns Group, which is looking for policy-specific commitments from the EEC on access, subsidies and domestic price supports, say this is totally unacceptable.

Japan

Questions Raised on Ability To Build FSX

OW1803005889 Tokyo KYODO in English 2321 GMT
17 Mar 89

[By Jerome Sayre]

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 KYODO—Advanced technologies and the growing reluctance to share them provoked a last-minute struggle in the Bush administration over the joint development with Japan of the FSX fighter plane.

U.S. critics fear vital know-how that could help Japan gain an advantage in the aviation industry would be essentially given away. Japanese backers of domestic development say their researchers could develop a modern warplane without U.S. help.

But could Japanese research and development build a superior fighter?

Some Defense Agency officials think so, but military analyst Kazuhisa Ogawa says no.

"When the FSX accord was cemented last October, the Japanese ASDF (Air Self-Defense Force) pilots were overjoyed," he says, because they have to contend with the faults of Japanese research each time they fly the domestically developed F-1 fighter.

Private conversations with ASDF pilots and his own research, have convinced Ogawa that "Japan's present development system can only produce defective planes."

To Ogawa, joint development is "far better than domestic manufacture based on the system as it stands."

Osamu Kaihara, former director of the Defense Agency's defense policy bureau, agrees. "Japan can't do it" alone, he insists.

The two say research, or the lack of it, is the problem. Kaihara sees it as "a problem of money and time," explaining that Japan does not have enough experience to build a superior plane.

Both experts point to the F-1 fighter, built by proposed FSX contractor Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. (MHI) in the early 1970's, as an example of the limits of Japan's production capabilities.

Ogawa details several deficiencies in MHI's F-1 warplane, some of which he said are readily apparent to experts who look at the plane, a modification of the T-2 trainer developed by Mitsubishi.

Night training flights out of the Misawa Airbase in northern Japan do not include the F-1. The radar is too weak for night use, Ogawa says, adding that plans for a larger nose cone necessary to house a more powerful radar system were shelved, rendering the fighter inadequate for night flying.

But the Defense Agency's press officer Hironobu Mizoguchi says the F-1 can be used at night, though he suggests that all radar "has its limits."

Ogawa says, F-1 pilots also face a blind spot to their rear and must use mirrors to gain a full field of vision. Other fighters are equipped with mirrors only to supplement the pilot's natural field of vision, he says, labeling the blind spot a fatal flaw in the split-second world of the dogfight.

Ogawa says attitudes in the development process itself are fundamentally flawed. "Once the plane is formally certified (by defense officials), even if a defect is discovered, it is overlooked." The risk of faulting the decisions of senior officials is great.

In a culture which puts a premium on hierarchy, causing a high official to lose face is taboo. This creates a tremendous barrier to the debugging process, Ogawa says.

In the end, Kaihara points out, the planes are put into production despite the defects.

Those promoting domestic development, he says, "are thinking along the same lines as the F-1 (development)." He sees the problem as involving the design process, not just technical know-how. "It doesn't matter how high the level of Japan's technology is, without the proper foundation a superior fighter cannot be built."

The Defense Agency thinks otherwise. Spokesman Mizoguchi says Japanese technology is up to the job and adds that the level of a domestic fighter and a jointly developed craft would be the same.

But Ogawa says sarcastically "it could take 20 years to fix the R and D (research and development) system," to the point necessary to develop a superior craft.

And the FSX pact? Where Japan can gain the most, he explains, is not in technology but in knowledge about the overall process involved in designing a strategically valid, well thought-out fighter craft.

Foreign Ministry Welcomes Cheney Confirmation
OW1803080789 Tokyo KYODO in English 0756 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 KYODO—The Japanese Government welcomes the U.S. Senate confirmation of Richard Cheney as defense secretary as good news for security and defense relations between Japan and the United States, a Foreign Ministry official said Saturday.

One Defense Agency official, noting the swift and unanimous Senate action, said it would help Cheney promote his defense policy.

Many government sources say that they expect Cheney's confirmation to pave the way for an early decision to proceed with joint development of Japan's next-generation support fighter, codenamed FSX.

On Friday, the Senate unanimously approved President George Bush's nomination of Cheney, a six-term Republican member of Congress from Wyoming, as the 17th secretary of defense of the United States.

Japanese Fishermen Protest U.S. Waters Ban
OW2003060989 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 20 KYODO—An estimated 100 Japanese fishermen and seamen rallied in Tokyo Monday against what they called the unilateral ban by the United States shutting them out of U.S. 200-nautical-mile fishing waters.

The protesters staged the rally in front of the Foreign Ministry building where Japanese, U.S. and Canadian fishery negotiators resumed their talks to resolve discord which surfaced earlier this month over Japan's access to a 200-nautical-mile stretch of water off the coast of Alaska.

The one-day rally was jointly sponsored by the Federation of Japan Salmon Fisheries Cooperative Associations and Japan Seamen's Union Associations.

The U.S. waters are recognized as one of Japan's salmon fishing grounds under a pact between Japan and the Soviet Union.

But Japan has been banned from catching salmon in the zone by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in line with U.S. environmentalist charges that fur seals are caught in Japanese salmon nets along with the fish. The Supreme Court agreed that this makes the catches illegal.

As a result, 129 Japanese fishing boats and mother ships are being kept from the 200-mile waters.

Japan is pushing the U.S. for a revision of its ocean mammals protection law, which formed the basis for the U.S. Supreme Court ruling. As an alternative, Japan demanded substitute fishing grounds.

Demonstrators Call for Misawa Closure
OW1903152889 Tokyo KYODO in English 1402 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] Misawa, March 19 KYODO—About 1,100 trade unionists, housewives and others gathered Sunday to urge the United States to scrap its Misawa Air Base in northern Japan, organizers said.

The rally was organized by various groups, including the Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo), which is affiliated with the Japan Communist Party.

Yuji Sato, associate professor of communications engineering at Akita University, told demonstrators of the dangers posed by the base, where F-16 fighters with nuclear attack capability have been stationed. One F-16 fighter will crash every year on average due to low-flight drills, he said.

Sato said the United States has also strengthened information gathering for its nuclear strategy at the base.

Following the speech made by Sato, representatives of six prefectures in the Tohoku region in northeastern Japan and Hokkaido reported on noise pollution caused by jet fighters operating out of the base.

Banned Chemical Found in Pork from U.S.
OW1703181489 Tokyo KYODO in English 1323 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—The Health and Welfare Ministry announced Friday that a banned antibacterial chemical was found in pork imported from the United States, and that it had directed municipalities to retrieve the meat the same day.

A high concentration of an antibacterial chemical called sulphamethazine, which is forbidden by the Food Sanitation Law, was found in 18 tons of pork imported from a meat processor in Illinois on January 20, the ministry said.

When a sample of the pork was tested on March 6, sulphamethazine was found in a concentration of 0.11 ppm, according to the ministry.

The ministry will also request that the United States investigate how the chemical got into the meat.

Because of doubts that the chemical may be carcinogenic, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is presently testing it with laboratory animals.

The ministry has strengthened its inspection at ports since February last year and has found the chemical in imported pork from the United States, Taiwan, and South Korea.

Discussions on Soviet Relations Convene in Tokyo

Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Arrives
OW1903084989 Tokyo KYODO in English 0752 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 19 KYODO - Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev arrived in Japan on Sunday to attend meetings devoted to preparing for a Japan-Soviet peace pact.

In his seven-day stay, Rogachev will meet Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama on Sunday afternoon and on Monday, and attend the first working-level meeting on the peace pact on Tuesday.

He will also meet with Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno on Friday.

Diplomatic authorities of both countries, in order to make way for a visit to Japan by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, are attempting to expand bilateral talks in preparation for a regular foreign ministerial meeting in Moscow scheduled for May 3 and 4.

Kuriyama, Rogachev Discuss EC, Human Rights
OW1903135489 Tokyo KYODO in English 1328 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 19 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union on Sunday shared their mutual concerns over the possible negative impact of European Community integration after 1992, while Japan broached the issue of human rights with the Soviets for the first time in a high-level bilateral forum, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The talks, which also encompassed U.S.-Soviet relations, were held between Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama and his Soviet counterpart Igor Rogachev at the Foreign Ministry's Iikura Guesthouse as part of regular deputy-ministerial-level consultations.

On their first of three days of meetings, both sides stepped adroitly around controversy, setting aside for Tuesday "matters which stand in the way of a peace treaty," namely their thorny territorial dispute over four Soviet-occupied islands.

The talks on Tuesday will be held for the first time by special working-level groups set up to handle the issue when Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visited Japan last December.

Touching on human rights, Kuriyama told Rogachev that Japan has a great interest in the issue, which he said was one of the common concerns Japan shares with the Western countries.

Kuriyama hailed Soviet efforts at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), in which Moscow committed itself to respecting the freedoms of religion, information and travel.

He said Japan looks forward to even more positive steps in the way of human rights from the Soviet Union.

Rogachev replied that human rights are now a major subject of attention in his country and pointed out that Moscow earlier this month accepted the binding jurisdiction of the World Court on major human rights treaties.

Kuriyama assured Rogachev that Japan's military is purely defensive in nature. He said Japan is searching for new ways of contributing to the world, pointing out its planned assistance for United Nations efforts in Namibia.

Rogachev expressed concern that the European Community's planned integration in 1992 might impede the growth of the global economy and said the Soviet Union is taking another look at possibilities for greater economic cooperation with Western Europe.

Kuriyama told his Soviet counterpart that the EC integration process is also being viewed cautiously in Japan and agreed that the world's largest single market should be open to the world.

Kuriyama hailed the Soviet Union's unilateral decision to pare its armed forces by 500,000 soldiers. But he put off questions as to the extent of reductions in the Soviet far east until Monday, when bilateral issues other than the territorial dispute will be discussed in the afternoon session following talks on regional issues in the morning.

Kuriyama also told Rogachev that Japan-Soviet relations are now on a progressive track and called on both countries to "carefully cultivate the roots of the reconciliatory trend."

Rogachev said the two sides are "moving from confrontation to cooperation," adding that their talks contribute to a lessening of tension in the world.

Soviet Proposal on Pacts Rejected
OW2003135289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 20 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union on Monday agreed to expand political dialogue, as resumed last December with the visit here by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Japan, however, turned down a Soviet proposal to conclude six bilateral agreements, saying there is no full political foundation between Tokyo and Moscow to conclude such pacts.

Deputy Foreign Ministers Takakazu Kuriyama of Japan and Igor Rogachev of the Soviet Union discussed international and bilateral affairs for seven hours and 10 minutes on the second day of their three-day session, the officials said. Both sides welcomed a series of recent political talks after Shevardnadze's December 18-21 visit to Japan.

To promote political relations further, the Japanese side offered to invite five middle-ranking officials of the Soviet Foreign Ministry to Japan for two weeks this fall, the officials said.

Rogachev reiterated the Soviet proposal that Tokyo and Moscow conclude six agreements to promote bilateral ties and lay the groundwork for a possible visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to Japan.

Kuriyama, however, rejected the Soviet proposal.

Rogachev argued that Japan's rejection is not conducive to paving the way for Gorbachev's visit to Japan, the officials said.

Shevardnadze proposed six bilateral accords, including ones on economic cooperation and protection of investments, during his talks with Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno held in Tokyo last December.

Kuriyama and Rogachev also exchanged views on political and economic situations in the Asia-Pacific region, Sino-Soviet rapprochement, the decade-long Kampuchean conflict and the political situation on the Korean peninsula.

On Asia-Pacific affairs, Rogachev called for the establishment of a multilateral negotiation system and a comprehensive approach toward settling regional conflicts.

Kuriyama, rejecting the Soviet claim for a blanket approach, proposed that the countries concerned should address problems one by one in the Asia-Pacific area, the officials said.

Rogachev was quoted as saying that the Soviet Union is ready to reveal data on its military strength in the Far East. He argued that the Soviet Armed Forces stationed in the Kurile Islands do not constitute any military threat to Japan.

Kuriyama maintained that Japan does not agree that Soviet troops deployed on islands south of the Kurile Islands pose no threat.

Japan has long called for the return of four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomais—which the Japanese Government says do not belong to the Kurile Islands group.

Referring to rapprochement between Moscow and Beijing, Rogachev was quoted as telling Kuriyama that improvement of bilateral relations will not be detrimental to third countries.

Kuriyama expressed hope that improved Soviet-China relations will contribute to peace and stability in the world.

On the Kampuchean issue, the two countries agreed to block the inhumane Khmer Rouge regime from returning to power.

Kuriyama explained to Rogachev that Japan is prepared to have direct talks with Pyongyang without preconditions in order to improve bilateral relations.

In reply, Rogachev expressed Soviet readiness to mediate between Japan and North Korea, which have no diplomatic ties.

On Soviet relations with South Korea, Rogachev said there is a strong possibility that Moscow and Seoul will expand relations in such fields as the economy, culture and tourism. However, Rogachev added that the Soviet Union has no intention of opening formal diplomatic ties with South Korea.

Kuriyama and Rogachev will meet Tuesday to negotiate a bilateral peace treaty, which includes the thorny northern territories issue.

Takehiro Togo, director general of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau, and Lyudvig Chizhov, who is in charge of the [Soviet Foreign Ministry's] Pacific and Southeast Asian region, will also have talks to continue discussion on fishery and human rights issues on either Wednesday or Thursday, according to the official.

Nakasone, Kissinger View Soviet Relations
*OW1703224689 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT
17 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said here Friday that the Soviet Union is serious about making concessions in its territorial dispute with Japan if that will pave the way for Japanese help in salvaging its crippled economy.

Kissinger touched on Japan's persistent claims to four Soviet-occupied islands at the first symposium held by former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's International Institute for Global Peace, which was established last year by the now politically troubled faction leader.

"I personally believe that the fact that the Soviets have agreed to discuss the (northern territories) subject means that they must be willing to do something," Kissinger said, adding it would be "foolhardy" for Moscow to pursue talks predestined for a stalemate.

The Nobel laureate predicted the Soviet Union is willing to "change the status of the islands in some way or to give back one or two," alluding to ideas being floated unofficially by Soviet academicians and publications.

Kissinger refrained from comment, however, on Japan's official line that it will accept nothing short of a wholesale return of the islands, occupied at the end of World War II.

While sounding an optimistic note for his Japanese hosts, Kissinger also cautioned that "once the Soviets start giving back territory they've acquired, they have a real problem."

"There are a lot of claimants on territory that the Soviets have acquired in the last 50 years, not to speak of territory that the Russians acquired in the last 150 years," Kissinger said.

Kissinger spoke three days before Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev's scheduled arrival in Japan Sunday for working level discussions on resolving problems blocking a belated bilateral peace treaty, including the intractable territorial issue.

Nakasone, who has been under intense pressure to testify before the Diet over his role in the Recruit scandal, unexpectedly canceled his scheduled speech in what political analysts saw as an effort to maintain a low-profile in the presence of tens of television cameras.

Nakasone's remarks were instead distributed afterwards in paper form, while he accepted just one previewed written question from the invited audience.

In his speech, Nakasone saw "a deep and dangerous abyss" in regard to the future prospects of perestroika, noting that Gorbachev faces strong domestic resistance from conservative quarters, but has managed to keep the program alive in large part due to his diplomatic achievements.

"We should not allow ourselves to indulge in naive thinking with respect to either the reform of the Soviet system or to our coexistence with the Soviet Union—the difficulties facing (Communist Party) General Secretary Gorbachev are immense," Nakasone warned.

He cautioned the West not to become so over-enamored with Soviet tactical reforms that it prematurely lets down its "psychological guard," thus leaving it frail in the event perestroika fails and a neo-Stalinist policy reemerges.

But he said Western nations and Japan, united in their cautious approach to the Soviets, should be flexible and attentive in striving toward "points of agreement that we must reach through compromise on both sides."

Hinting that the occupied northern territories are an exception, Nakasone said the Soviets "have things to concede to Japan but Japan has nothing to concede to them."

Nakasone, a former student of Kissinger 35 years ago at Harvard University, was humorously alluded to by his mentor when Kissinger was asked what he would do if he were prime minister of Japan.

"Even in advanced stages of megalomania, I do not believe that I would be completely eligible to be considered for that position—and anyway, I think your politics are too rough for me," Kissinger quipped, casting a glance over at Nakasone.

Oxford University professor Robert O'Neill, former head of the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS), a prestigious London think tank, drew attention to the "divisive effect" he said Gorbachev's "charm offensive" is having on the Western alliance, in which some members appear to be reassessing their security commitments.

The historian also warned that the route Gorbachev has chosen can lead either to a more nonconfrontational Soviet role in international society or ultimately to "a stronger capacity to hegemonize."

Taken at face value, Gorbachev's goal is to "fulfill the prescriptions of Lenin," O'Neill noted. Another scenario, however, is that the reformist leader is "simply cloaking himself in orthodoxy in order to achieve something of which Lenin would never have approved."

O'Neill said that while the West should "dare to have new hopes and the vision to achieve them," it should not rule out the possibility that "a reformed Soviet Union could pose security problems to the West just as much as an unreformed one."

Kissinger rejected the concept put forward by the Soviets of "a Europe from the Urals to the Atlantic," calling it a scheme to "disassociate" Europe from the United States, making it "an appendage of the Soviet Union."

Kissinger called the desire to offer untied Western loans to the Soviet Union "an example of Western abdication" and criticized the theory that a richer Soviet Union will necessarily be a more peaceful one.

"It's a new theory of international relations that a strong adversary is better for you than a weak adversary," Kissinger quipped with trademark sarcasm.

"If Gorbachev wants concessions from us, he should offer concessions in return—he cannot ask us to pay him for reforming his economy which they have made a mess of without our help."

"In any case, any businessman who puts money there hoping to get anything back will, in my view, be severely disappointed."

Tokyo, Seoul To Send Delegation to Sakhalin
*OW1803135589 Tokyo KYODO in English 1216 GMT
18 Mar 89*

[Text] Seoul, March 18 KYODO—Japanese and South Korean politicians agreed Saturday to send a joint delegation to Sakhalin, a Soviet territory, as early as toward the year's end to press for freedom of travel for Korean residents there.

The Japan-South Korean Parliamentarians League has been discussing the question of Koreans unable to leave Sakhalin to visit their homeland or relatives in Japan since the end of World War II, league officials said.

When Sakhalin, north of Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido, was under Japanese rule until the end of World War II, many Koreans were forced to settle there. The Koreans were left behind with Japan's defeat in the war. The Soviet Union had not allowed them to leave Sakhalin until last year.

The league will appeal to the provincial government of Sakhalin to permit Koreans to visit their homeland and will collect information on their lives and living conditions.

The Soviet attitude softened since the Seoul Olympics last year. A total of 134 Korean residents in Sakhalin visited Japan in the past year, of whom some 80 were able to return to South Korea for family reunions. Some were given permission to stay permanently in their homeland.

The league wants to see fast procedures for family reunion or homecoming for the aging Koreans in Sakhalin.

PRC Pledges To Execute Export Contracts
*OW1703234289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1337 GMT
17 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—China pledged efforts to implement unfulfilled export contracts with Japanese firms during a two-day bilateral meeting ended here Friday, a Japanese business leader said.

Ryoichi Kawai, chairman of Komatsu Ltd., who heads a Sino-Japanese trade group, expressed optimism that bilateral trade disputes stemming from China's ongoing process of economic adjustment will decline in the months ahead.

Kawai made the comment in connection with complaints among Japanese companies that China has failed to meet export obligations in an increasing number of cases since last fall due to the country's policy of giving priority to satisfying domestic needs for raw materials and some other items, trading sources said.

The meeting was the third regular joint session of Japanese and Chinese groups devoted to expanding bilateral economic and trade ties.

Iran Vows To Complete Petrochemical Complex
*OW1803154189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1055 GMT
18 Mar 89*

[Text] Tehran, March 18 KYODO—Mohammad Hedi-Rahbari, deputy chief of Iran's National Petrochemical Co., (NPC) said Saturday Iran will go ahead with a multibillion dollar petrochemical project stalled by the Iran-Iraq war even if the Japanese partner withdraws from it.

Rahbari confirmed his company has been negotiating with the Iran Chemical Development Co. (ICDC) on Japan's withdrawal from the project.

Rahbari said the project will be carried out without Japan's participation and expressed hope that the Japanese Government will provide financial and technological cooperation.

ICDC is an investment firm formed by a group of Japanese companies led by Mitsui and Co. to promote the project.

The plan calling for construction of a giant petrochemical complex in the Iranian port city of Bandar Khomeini, was launched in 1971 with the support of the Japanese Government. It has been stalled as a result of the Gulf war.

Rahbari said ICDC proposed negotiations last December to pave the way for its withdrawal from the project.

He said negotiations will be resumed in April.

Rahbari expressed confidence that Iran would be able to complete the project without Mitsui's participation.

He asked Japan to help Iran accomplish the project and said "I think the problem can be solved by efforts of the Japanese Government."

He emphasized that the project started on the basis of agreement among four parties concerned—Japanese and Iranian Governments, the Mitsui group and NPC.

Takeshita Stresses Defense Self-Reliance
*OW1903192889 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT
19 Mar 89*

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., March 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said here Sunday that Japan must acquire a more self-reliant defense capability, while continuing to support and strengthen its security alliance with the United States.

Takeshita, speaking at the National Defense Academy, told the graduating class of 447 officer-candidates and six foreign graduates that Japan must resolve to "protect one's own country by one's own hands."

"That is why we are striving toward consolidation of a high-quality and appropriate defensive capability that is in line with such basic defense policies as Japan's exclusively self-defense orientation and the Constitution," Takeshita said.

Takeshita said Japan's defense buildup efforts also contribute to increasing support for its security arrangements with the United States, thus "facilitating the East-West military balance" and by further extension "contributing to peace and security in Asia and the world as a whole."

Takeshita noted that 1988 was a watershed year in which the United States and the Soviet Union moved forward in the area of disarmaments, while major progress was likewise achieved in resolving conflicts around the globe.

"Still, the basic framework under which peace and security of the world community are maintained remains unchanged, namely that of military deterrence based on a balance of power between the East-West collective security systems, centering on the United States and the Soviet Union," the prime minister said.

Takeshita noted that Japan's international responsibility has dramatically increased along with its larger role in world affairs and called for the promotion of "a Japan which contributes to the world."

Takeshita, commander-in-chief of the 240,000-strong Self-Defense Forces (SDF), called on the National Defense Academy graduates to establish a rapport with the general public and exert themselves in engendering feelings of solidarity and support for the SDF.

Defense Agency Director General Kichiro Tazawa also reminded the future SDF elite that their ability to fulfill the role of protecting Japan from outside aggression is dependent on the support of the general public.

He encouraged the cadets to play a leading role in creating an awareness that Japan must shoulder responsibility for its own defense.

Tazawa said Japan has been making efforts to achieve "an effective and efficient" defense capability while upgrading the reliability of the Japan-U.S. security alliance.

"These defense efforts not only determine the peace and security of Japan ... but also contribute positively to the realization of a peaceful and orderly international environment," he said.

Addressing the four Thai students and two Singapore students in the graduating class, Tazawa said, "may the comradeship forged at this academy serve as a bridge to promote friendship between your countries and Japan."

The military school, established in 1953 as the National Safety Academy, graduates over 400 students a year.

As part of its plan to make the service more attractive in an increasingly affluent Japan, the Defense Agency has been pressing for the academy to be accredited like most public and private universities.

Academy cadets graduate as officer-candidates in one of the respective service branches.

After an additional year of training in academies of their chosen branches, the cadets begin work as SDF officers.

A record 58 of the 447 graduating cadets, or 11 percent of the total, have decided not to continue in the service, compared with 40 last year. The addition of the 76 students who dropped out midterm brings the total to 134.

In the three-year period between 1986 and 1988, some 99 cadets dropped out at graduation, while another 84 quit the service within the following year.

Meanwhile, SDF recruitment figures are down by 20 percent over the previous year, giving evidence of the decreasing popularity of the service.

Government Lifts Chilean Grape Embargo

*OW1803071889 Tokyo KYODO in English 0513 GMT
18 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 KYODO—Japan on Saturday lifted a temporary suspension of imports on Chilean grapes on the condition that Chile confirms their safety on shipment, the Health and Welfare Ministry said.

The ministry imposed the suspension on Tuesday after the United States discovered two cyanide-tainted grapes from Chile in a shipment inspected in Philadelphia on Monday [13 March].

The ministry said Japan decided to lift the import embargo as the United States lifted its similar import ban on Friday.

Japan will import Chilean grapes if Chile confirms their safety on shipment and will conduct sample checks on the imports to reconfirm their edibility, the ministry said.

The ministry also said it may send officials to Chile to check Chilean grapes on shipment.

The ministry said it will allow use of Chilean grapes from bonded warehouses in Japan or under shipment from Chile for juice subject to checks on their quality and safety.

Chilean grapes already imported and in circulation in Japan will also be allowed for use in juice on similar conditions, the ministry said.

Komeito Proposes Establishing Caretaker Cabinet
*OW1703115189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT
17 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Komeito Chairman Junya Yano called on Friday for establishing an opposition caretaker cabinet to replace that of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

The leader of the No. 2 opposition party Komeito, who visited Toyohashi, Aichi Prefecture, on a campaign tour for the July election of the House of Councillors, also proposed holding a summit meeting of heads of the four major opposition parties to discuss the goal.

Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi told a press conference the same day that the JSP also would welcome talks with both the Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) on establishing an opposition coalition government.

On Thursday, DSP leader Eiichi Nagasue said his party will break away from the Liberal Democratic Party and pursue establishing an opposition coalition government with the JSP and Komeito.

Opposition parties have demanded the mass resignation of the Takeshita cabinet or dissolution of the House of Representatives because of the Recruit bribery scandal which involves a number of politicians, senior government officials and business leaders.

Takeshita has suffered sharp declines in public approval ratings because of the Recruit scandal and of the unpopular consumption tax plan, according to published reports.

Yano told a news conference in Toyohashi that the JSP, Komeito, DSP and the United Social Democratic Party need to work out joint policies on political reform, tax reform and the challenges posed by Japan's aging population.

Komeito will press for the resignation of the Takeshita cabinet, the dissolution of the House of Representatives and for a snap general election.

Yano said Komeito will call for abolition of the 3 percent consumption tax scheduled to be imposed on almost all types of goods and services beginning April 1.

Opposition To Confer on Recruit Stalemate
*OW1703230289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1433 GMT
17 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Leaders of four opposition parties will meet in Kyoto in early April to discuss how to break the present political stalemate stemming from the Recruit bribery scandal, opposition sources said Friday.

Takako Doi of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), Junya Yano of Komeito, Eiichi Nagasue of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and Satsuki Eda of the United Social Democratic Party (Shaminren) will take an overall perspective toward the present political situation, the sources said.

A fifth opposition party, the Japan Communist Party (JCP), is not invited to the session.

Secretaries general of the four parties reached the accord in a meeting at a Tokyo hotel Friday evening, the sources said.

The exact date for the opposition summit is subject to further talks later this month among the four secretaries general—Tsuruo Yamaguchi of the JSP, Naohiko Okubo of Komeito, Takashi Yonezawa of the DSP and Shogo Abe of Shaminren, they said.

Meanwhile, Komeito Chairman Yano, at a press conference in Toyohashi, Aichi Prefecture, called for establishing an opposition caretaker cabinet to replace that of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, which has suffered sharp losses in public approval ratings because of the Recruit scandal and the unpopular consumption tax, to be implemented from April 1.

The opposition secretaries general also agreed to make their best efforts to realize their demand that former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone testify in the Diet over his role, if any, in the scandal which involves a number of politicians, senior government officials and business leaders.

However, Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Shintaro Abe, in a speech at a forum earlier the same day, again refused the opposition demand, saying it would be treating Nakasone like a criminal.

Business in the Diet has come to a complete halt since March 8 because of a showdown between the ruling LDP and the opposition camp over the Recruit affair.

Opposition parties say they cannot resume Diet debates on the fiscal 1989 Nakasone to testify. [as received]

Following Komeito leader Yano's proposal for an opposition caretaker cabinet, JSP secretary General Yamaguchi told a press conference that the No. 1 opposition party is ready to promote talks with both the Komeito and the DSP on establishment of an opposition coalition government.

On Thursday, DSP leader Nagasue said his party will break with the LDP and pursue establishment of an opposition coalition government among the JSP, Komeito and DSP.

Opposition parties have asked for the mass resignation of the Takeshita cabinet or dissolution of the House of Representatives because of the Recruit bribery scandal.

Yano, who visited Toyohashi on a campaign tour to drum up support for the July election of the House of Councillors, told the news conference that the JSP, Komeito, DSP and Shaminren need to work out joint policy on political reform, tax reform and the aging society.

Komeito will press for the resignation of the Takeshita cabinet and the dissolution of the House of Representatives for a snap general election.

Yano said Komeito will call for abolition of the 3 percent consumption tax scheduled to be imposed on almost all types of goods and services from April 1.

Yano, in a campaign speech to an audience of some 1,600, said that the Takeshita cabinet is on the verge of collapse and appealed for public support to topple the LDP's 34-year rule.

Meanwhile, in Tokyo, Mitsuhiro Kaneko, acting Presidium chairman of the JSP, also kicked off a campaign series aimed at the July election, urging Prime Minister Takeshita to dissolve the House of Representatives for a general election to seek the will of the voters.

Kaneko said anger is mounting among the Japanese people against the 3 percent consumption tax, which he said Takeshita is trying to forcibly impose on consumers.

Abe Says Nakasone To Explain Recruit Role
OW1703234389 Tokyo KYODO in English 1309 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] Secretary General Shintaro Abe said Friday there will be a chance "sometime" for former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to remove doubts about his role in the Recruit bribery scandal.

Abe said there will be a time for explanation after prosecutors finish their probe into the scandal.

Abe said he, as leader of the ruling party, is not at all considering accepting an opposition demand that Nakasone testify in the Diet over his possible role in the scandal.

Abe, who was present at a session of a pro-LDP forum of 34 academics and commentators, said if the LDP gave in to the opposition demand for a Nakasone testimony it would be treating Nakasone as a criminal.

Nakasone, in power between November 1982 and November 1987, is suspected of having had close links with Hiromasa Ezoe, the founder of Recruit Co., the

scandal-ridden information business giant, and of a possible role in the resale of two supercomputers from Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. to Recruit.

The former prime minister, who has categorically denied any links with Recruit, was forced to cancel a scheduled visit to the United States last month amid strong criticism from opposition parties.

Three of his close aides purchased 29,000 unlisted shares of Recruit Cosmos Co. in the fall of 1986.

On Friday, Nakasone canceled a scheduled speech at a symposium in what political analysts see as an effort to maintain a low profile.

'Weak' Earthquake Shakes Tokyo Area
OW1803002689 Tokyo KYODO in English 0010 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 KYODO—A weak earthquake with an intensity of up to 3 on the Japanese scale of 7 shook Tokyo and other areas of the Kanto and Tohoku regions at 1:37 A.M. Saturday, but there were no reports of any damage or casualties.

An intensity of 3 degrees was registered in Tokyo, and in Chiba and Choshi, both in Chiba Prefecture, the meteorological agency said.

The agency estimated the magnitude of the quake at 5.3 on the Richter Scale and located its focus at about 40 kilometers deep in the northern part of Chiba Prefecture.

The intensity was 2 in Yokohama, at Tateyama in Chiba Prefecture, and at Mito in Ibaraki Prefecture.

Another quake with a 2-degree intensity on the Japanese scale was registered in Yonago and Sakaiminato, both in Tottori Prefecture in western Japan, at 5:18 A.M.

Its focus was estimated about 20 kilometers deep in the western part of the prefecture.

North Korea

Meeting Held on 7th Anniversary of Pusan Arson
SK1703153289 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 17 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang meeting commemorating the 7th anniversary of the arson at the "American Cultural Centre" in Pusan by South Korean students and people was held at the February 8 House of Culture today.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, in his report at the meeting said that the setting fire to the "American Cultural Centre" in Pusan 7 years ago marked a new turning point in developing the struggle of the South Korean students and people to the anti-U.S. struggle for independence.

Noting that they have directed the sharp edge of their struggle to the U.S. imperialists after the arson, he stated: The anti-U.S. struggle for independence is becoming more conscious and organized among the South Korean people and their struggle for national reunification is expanding and developing into a massive movement.

What is particularly noteworthy in the struggle of the South Korean students and people of all strata is that the mass movement guided by the immortal *chuche* idea is being vigorously waged in the teeth of the brutal fascist suppression by the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique, he said.

Turning to the task of the anti-U.S. struggle for independence, he stressed: for the present, a powerful struggle should be waged to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, resolutely opposing and rejecting the war maneuvers and arms buildup of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

If the United States truly wants peace on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification, it should respond to the three-way talks proposed by us at an early date, sign a "peace agreement" and withdraw from South Korea, taking along its troops and nuclear weapons, Choe Yong-hae said. And, he went on, the South Korean authorities must give up at once the war moves and "two Koreas" plot, take a determined step to get the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons out of South Korea, abrogate all brands of fascist laws including the "National Security Law" and carry out the democratization of social and political life.

Attending the meeting were Ho Chong-suk, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Choe Tok-sin, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, and Kim Yong-chun, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party.

447th Military Armistice Commission Meeting Ends
SK1903014989 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2300 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] The 447th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] was held yesterday in Panmunjom at our proposal.

At the meeting, our side strongly protested that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets started the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise in violation of the armistice agreement and contrary to the trend of dialogue and the trend of the era, thus making the situation on the Korean peninsula extremely acute, and called the enemy side to account.

Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of our side, said that although the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise waged by the U.S. side has gravely affected the situation on the Korean peninsula thus far, never before has the question of discontinuing the exercise been so

seriously raised as this year. He continued: Since early this year multichannelled North-South dialogue and negotiations have been resumed according to the unanimous aspirations and desires of all the people in the North and the South. Thus, a new hope for detente and reunification has come to our people, who have been divided into the North and the South for as long as 40 years and have been forced to suffer the pain of confrontation and division.

It was obvious that if the U.S. side pushed ahead with the large-scale "Team Spirit" joint military exercise at this moment, the situation on the Korean peninsula would be extremely strained and North-South dialogue would be threatened. Proceeding from this fact, we have made all possible efforts for the discontinuation of the "Team Spirit 89" war exercise long before it began.

Our side has repeatedly demanded that if the U.S. side genuinely wants to ease tension and negotiations, it must clarify at least its stand of not waging such a large-scale military exercise as "Team Spirit" this year. Also through the MAC, we have made whatever efforts we can. Late last year our side sent the U.S. side a letter demanding that it not wage the exercise this year in conformity with the trend of dialogue and detente. At the meetings held last January and February to adopt the matter of easing tension as an agenda item, we raised the problem of discontinuing such a large-scale military exercise as "Team Spirit" as the first emerging agenda item and demanded that it be urgently discussed and solved. Furthermore, proceeding from our single-hearted aspirations for preventing the large-scale military exercise from causing confrontation and tension and for making successful progress in multichannelled dialogue and negotiations, we also showed the sincerity and magnanimity of proposing to include the U.S. side-proposed agenda items, though small and secondary, in our agenda and to discuss them.

These demands and assertions were extremely just in view of the situation of acute confrontation on the Korean peninsula and in light of scheduled multichannelled North-South dialogue and negotiations between the two sides and the trend of detente in the international arena.

However, the U.S. side has turned away from our repeated just demands and has persistently taken the course of pushing ahead with the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise by mobilizing massive armed forces, including approximately 200,000 armed service members, this year as well.

At present, approximately 35,000 U.S. troops, a fleet of aircraft carriers and other battle ships, nuclear-loaded fighter-bombers, nuclear missiles, tanks, armored cars, and numerous other ultramodern war means and nuclear-attack means, have been introduced into South Korea from the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, the Philippines, Guam, Japan, and other places.

Meanwhile, U.S. troops in Japan and U.S. Air Force bases on the U.S. mainland and in the Pacific have assumed an alert status. Massive forces mobilized in this exercise are conducting an attack operational exercise in earnest, with our republic as an imaginary enemy, after being deployed to operational areas.

At around 0430 [1930 GMT] at dawn on 14 March, with the aircraft carrier "Midway" standing by 60 miles from the east coast, the U.S. side conducted a large-scale joint landing exercise near Pohang, after mobilizing combat ships, landing ships, and freighter ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet; combat ships of the puppet navy; aircraft of various types; tanks; and numerous other warships and operational equipment. For the first time in history, ultramodern landing warships, capable of landing on coastal areas as fast as they can sail on the sea, were mobilized in this landing exercise which the U.S. started. The U.S. side also dispatches daily no fewer than nine B-52 strategic bombers based on Guam Island to South Korea to conduct an exercise involving dropping nuclear bombs in areas similar to strike targets in the northern half of the republic. As a matter of fact, this is the largest-scale nuclear bombing exercise, unprecedented in its scale to previous "Team Spirit" exercises.

The senior member of our side sternly charged that the fact that the U.S. side again this year forcibly started the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises is a wanton violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement and a heinous challenge to the North-South dialogue arranged after a long interval. He also said that the exercise is a challenge to our peace efforts and is a peace-harassing act that runs counter to the international trend of detente and peace, and strongly demanded again that this exercise be discontinued at once.

Instead of guaranteeing that it would implement our side's just demand, the U.S. side enumerated the unreasonable sophistry that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is an annual defensive exercise. Offhandedly, the senior member of our side stressed that it is an unreasonable falsehood for the U.S. imperialists to talk about defense while at the same time conducting an aggressive nuclear war exercise. Using videotapes and photographs, he roundly exposed the aggressive and dangerous nature of the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise, which the rascals started.

The senior member of our side said that all the facts undeniably prove that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is a preliminary war and a test nuclear war designed to invade our republic. After saying that the fact that they invited us to observe such an aggressive and offensive war exercise is a mockery of and challenge to our people and the world's peace-loving people, he said that we have no intention of observing such an exercise for a war of aggression and that even if we do not go to observe this exercise, we know very well what sort of war exercise this military exercise is. He also pointed out that the U.S. side is talking about so-called

advance notice and an invitation for us to observe the exercise, a practice not uncommon in other countries. However, the U.S. side can use this invitation as a tool to convince those who do not know the concrete realities of our country.

After pointing out that the "Team Spirit 89" war exercise graphically shows that the U.S. side is not interested in the alleviation of tension and the North-South dialogue in the first place and that it is seeking only confrontation and war, the senior member of our side stressed: War and confrontational lines are at variance with the trend of the era. The day has long passed when one threatens others using force of arms and that one handles issues using force of arms. If it truly wants the alleviation of tension and negotiations and if it is to assist the North-South dialogue, the U.S. side must immediately discontinue the "Team Spirit 89" war exercise and must withdraw nuclear weapons and all the other forces of aggression that they have already introduced.

Even though we love peace, we will in no way beg for it; and even though we do not want war, we are not afraid of it. The fact that the Korean People's Army supreme commander ordered all of our armed forces to assume a combat mobilization posture with a high degree of revolutionary vigilance is an appropriate self-defensive measure and an act that reflects our people's strong will to resolutely respond to the aggressors' military provocations with appropriate countermeasures.

In conclusion, the senior member of our side said that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets must not miscalculate our people's will and must act with discretion after squarely seeing the realities.

Senior Member Protests Exercise

SK1803050889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Kaesong March 18 (KCNA)—Major General Choe Ui-ung, senior member of our side, at the 447th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] now under way in Panmunjom lodged a stern protest with the U.S. side against its holding of the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises, ignoring our repeated demand and strongly urged it to stop the manoeuvres at once and immediately withdraw all the aggression forces including nuclear weapons which have already been deployed.

From the beginning of the year our side repeatedly demanded the U.S. side that it clarify its readiness not to stage such a large-scale military rehearsal as the "Team Spirit," now that multi-channelled North-South dialogue and negotiation have been proposed, but on March 14 the U.S. side staged a large-scale joint landing operation in Pohang area.

Latest landing craft capable of landing on the opposite coast at the same speed as in the sea was mobilized in landing operation for the first time.

The U.S. side sent nine strategic bombers "B-52" from Guam every day to South Korea to stage nuclear bomb dropping exercises in the area similar to the target of the northern half of Korea.

These exercises were committed several times from March 14 to 17.

This is the largest scale nuclear bombing drill ever in the "Team Spirit" war games.

The senior member of our side stressed that by such adventurous nuclear war manoeuvres of the U.S. side our side is exposed to a grave nuclear threat and the military confrontation and tension between the two sides are being aggravated to the extreme. It is, he said, all the more grave that the U.S. side spread a lie that the period of exercises is no more than 10 days, while staging them for more than 90 days, deploying huge aggression forces secretly from the end of January.

This method is necessary to those who have completed preparations for a war of aggression and are watching for a chance of aggression, he noted, and pointed out: The U.S. side's staging of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises this year, too, is a gross violation of the Preamble and Paragraph 12 of the Armistice Agreement on enforcing a complete cessation of all hostilities in Korea by all armed forces and subparagraphs 13 C and D on ceasing the introduction into Korea of reinforcing military personnel and arms equipment.

The meeting continues.

Parliamentarian Delegation Condemns 'Team Spirit'
SK1803094089 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2200 GMT 17 Mar 89

["Statement" by the DPRK delegation to the North-South parliamentarians' meeting for the preparation of North-South joint parliamentary talks; issued in Pyongyang on 17 March—read by announcer]

[Text] The South Korean authorities, who are staging the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise in collusion with the United States, finally entered into the stage of a full-scale offensive operation in defiance of strong protest and denunciation by the people at home and abroad who demand that the exercise be suspended. This is not only an open challenge to the progressive people of the world who wish for peace in and the peaceful reunification of Korea, but is also an undisguised provocation against us, the partner in dialogue.

At the seventh round of meetings held at the end of last year, the North's delegation to the North-South parliamentarians' meeting for the preparation of North-South joint parliamentary talks proposed discussing the issue of discontinuing the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise as the first agenda item at the joint talks. Thus, the North's delegation strongly called on the South to discontinue the large-scale war exercise.

Even at the preliminary meeting held this year for the North-South high-level political and military talks, we demanded repeatedly that the South Korean authorities express their position to suspend the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise which will instigate confrontation and cause the danger of war.

We considered that there would be no reason why the South, since it showed its willingness to hold dialogue with us, cannot take such measures as discontinuing the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise, conducting the exercise only with the South Korean armed forces without the participation of outside forces, and reducing the scale and changing the name of the exercise.

However, not only have the South Korean authorities announced officially that they will stage the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise together with foreign aggressor forces on a large scale as before—ignoring our side's demand—but they also began to openly pursue confrontation with us.

Furthermore, we should not overlook the fact that the Assembly in the South, our dialogue partner, has not taken any steps to suspend the "Team Spirit 89" war exercise.

At the seventh round of meetings held at the end of last year our delegation explained to the South's delegation in detail that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is decisively harmful to national unity and peaceful reunification and repeatedly stressed that the South Korean National Assembly, if it represents the popular will, should deservedly fulfill its share of the mission for detente, peace, and peaceful reunification in conformity with the aspirations of the people.

If the South's Assembly truly wants to hold dialogue with us and intends to discuss the impending questions, including the nonaggression issue, it should have taken even the least measures necessary for smoothly carrying out dialogue by heeding our advice.

However, the South's Assembly, which advocated as if it would exercise so-called influence, tacitly approved the authorities' act of perpetrating the "Team Spirit 89" war exercise which runs counter to the national aspiration. It has been at wits' end without working out any step to suspend the exercise. This is indeed deplorable.

Together with all fellow countrymen, we sternly denounce the war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean ruling bunch who are staging the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise in defiance of our repeated warnings and by challenging the national aspirations. We condemn their maneuvers as a criminal, antinational, and aggressive act of denying detente, peace, and dialogue.

The U.S. imperialists, who are recklessly staging the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise in South Korea, are indeed exceedingly stupid fellows [kukhi udunhan jadul].

No one can predict that the stupid fellows of the U.S. aggressor forces who are participating in the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise may launch an adventurous playing with fire anytime, anywhere; nor is there a guarantee that its sparks will not spread into a real war against the northern half of the Republic and into a full-scale war.

In order to cope with such a grave situation created on the Korean peninsula, the Korean People's Army [KPA] supreme commander issued an order to all units of the KPA and the Korean People's Security Forces and to all members of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards to assume a combat mobilization posture with sense of heightened revolutionary vigilance. This is extremely just and rightful.

Looking straight at the lofty revolutionary spirit of our people to firmly defend the sacred lands of the fatherland and socialist gains from invasion of the enemy, and looking at the trend of the time, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities should immediately discontinue the adventurous "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise and should pull out of South Korean boundaries without delay all the troops and equipment which they brought into South Korea for the exercise.

We love peace and treasure North-South dialogue; however, we have no intention of begging the aggressors for them. It is as plain as day that as long as the extremely dangerous "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is continuing against us, the partner of dialogue, the meeting between parliamentarians from the two sides to prepare for the North-South joint parliamentary talks cannot be realized.

If the words about dialogue, detente, and reunification—which the South Korean authorities loudly raved about whenever they found an opportunity—are not lies, they should show their clear position by discontinuing the antidiologue, antipeace, and antireunification "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise.

If the South Korean authorities continue the act of aggravating the state of confrontation and tensions between the North and the South in defiance of our repeated warnings, they will be held totally responsible before the nation for the consequences arising therefrom and for delaying the North-South dialogue.

[Dated] 17 March 1989, Pyongyang

Envoys to Foreign Countries Condemn 'Team Spirit'

Ambassador To PRC Comments

SK1903090089 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1300 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] A news conference was held yesterday at our embassy in China concerning the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise, which has entered into the stage of a full-scale offensive operation.

Present at the conference were reporters from newspapers, news agencies, and broadcasting stations in China, functionaries of publication domains in foreign missions in China, and foreign correspondents.

Chu Chang-chun, our ambassador to China, spoke at the conference.

He said: The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets again staged the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise instead of responding to the sincere efforts of the government of our Republic to ensure peace in and achieve the peaceful reunification of the nation.

This military exercise is a direct outcome of the U.S. strategy toward Korea and Asia, and is a preliminary war and a test nuclear war designed to launch a preemptive strike on the northern half of the Republic.

Noting that the stereotyped remarks of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise is a so-called defensive training are not reasonable, he revealed that the aggressive and offensive "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise is designed to lead the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war and to drive Asia and the world into the calamities of a thermonuclear war.

He pointed out that this exercise merely showed that the rascals' remarks about detente and dialogue were all lies.

He continued: Because of this joint military exercise, the consistent efforts of our Republic for peace in and the peaceful reunification of the nation have been gravely challenged, and an acute situation in which a war may break out at any moment is being created on the Korean peninsula.

In order to cope with the prevailing situation, the Korean People's Army [KPA] supreme commander issued an order to all units of the KPA and the Korean People's Security Forces and to all members of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards to assume a combat mobilization posture with heightened revolutionary vigilance.

He stressed that this is a measure of self-defense to deal with the new war provocation maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

Stressing that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean military fascist elements should immediately suspend the anachronistic "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise, he said that they should act in conformity with the international trend of detente and dialogue.

He warned that if the enemy continues to play with fire, in defiance of the protest and denunciation of the people at home and abroad, they will never be able to escape the total responsibility for any grave consequences arising therefrom.

Following this, the ambassador answered reporters' questions.

Embassy in Moscow Statement

SK1803093789 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
1300 GMT 16 Mar 89

[Text] The DPRK Embassy in the Soviet Union held a news conference on 14 March in connection with the issuance of the communique of the Supreme Command of the Korean People's Army [KPA]. Present there were reporters of Soviet central-level newspapers, news agencies, broadcasting, and magazines and the functionaries of the relevant sector.

Kim Hak-san, the military attache at our embassy, spoke at the news conference. He conveyed the full text of the KPA Supreme Command communique issuing the KPA supreme commander's order to all units of the KPA and the Korean People's Security Forces and all members of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia and the Red Youth Guards to assume a combat mobilization posture. He also exposed the aggressive nature and objective of the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise conducted by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique.

He exposed the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are employing a crafty deceptive trick as if they had shortened the period of the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise and denounced their "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise, stating that this is the aggressive war rehearsal designed to invade the DPRK and that it is a provocative offensive exercise that tramples down peace and security on the Korean peninsula and further aggravates tension there.

He stressed that if the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique should continue to follow the road to war, extremely straining tension, the officers and men of the KPA and all the people who are firmly united around the party and the leader will thoroughly destroy the aggressors and firmly defend the fatherland and the gains of the revolution.

Answers were given to the questions asked at the news conference.

NODONG SINMUN Cited on 'Team Spirit'

'To Provoke War'

SK1903120789 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
2123 GMT 15 Mar 89

[NODONG SINMUN 16 March special article: "A Test War and a Preliminary War Designed To Provoke Nuclear War"]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Because of the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean military fascist elements, a dangerous situation in which a war may break out at any moment has been created in our country today.

On 14 March the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged a large-scale landing operation in Pohang simulating their invasion of the northern half of the Republic. Thus, the "Team Spirit-89" joint military exercise entered into a full-scale active stage.

With the Pohang landing operation as the starting point, the enormous aggressive forces, which swarmed into South Korea from U.S. military bases on the U.S. mainland and the Pacific area, have launched a full-scale offensive operation by joining the U.S. troops in South Korea and the puppet army.

Colossal armed forces have been concentrated on the frontline area close to the Military Demarcation Line from areas throughout South Korea. Amid this situation, the traitor and warmonger No Tae-u appeared at the site of the "Team Spirit" military training together with the U.S. imperialist masters and instigated the war fever.

This adventurous offensive operation by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets has driven the situation on the Korean peninsula to an extremely dangerous state in which a war may break out at any moment.

The "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise staged by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets is not defensive but is an aggressive preliminary war and a test nuclear war designed to attack the northern half of the Republic.

It is a stereotyped technique of the aggressors to launch an offensive operation against the opposite side while pretending that they are conducting a training exercise, after having assembled enormous armed forces.

More than 200,000-strong troops are participating in the "Team Spirit 89" war exercise. If the troops of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces, which swarmed in from the U.S. mainland and the Pacific area, the U.S. forces in South Korea, the puppet army, and the paramilitary forces are added up, the number of troops participating in this war exercise reaches several millions.

The U.S. imperialists and the puppets may launch a full-scale offensive operation at a stroke against our Republic by making an excuse, while pretending that they are conducting a training exercise under the sign-board of defense, after assembling such an enormous armed force.

The detailed contents of the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise are consistent with ones designed to attack the northern half of the Republic. The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise staged by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets assumes the operational tactics for a preemptive attack as its basic line.

Their large-scale landing operation, drill of striking at the depth of the opposite side's rear by aircraft, and the river-crossing operation are all offensive operations.

It is basic common sense that the landing operation staged in the coastal cities and areas in South Korea resembling those in the northern half of the Republic, the training of bombing at the depth of our side's area by aircraft, and the river-crossing operation are not defensive training but offensive actions.

Furthermore, each time they stage the "Team Spirit" exercise, the U.S. imperialists carry out nuclear-launching and nuclear bomb-dropping exercises and exercises of conducting nuclear strikes against imaginary enemies during the ground attack drill, landing and river-crossing training, as well as exercises of attacking our side's rear by Green Berets carrying nuclear backpacks. All this is necessary for attacking us.

The fact that the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise is being staged according to the detailed nuclear war plans of the U.S. imperialists makes the dangerous nature of this exercise even greater.

In setting the period of the active drill of the "Team Spirit" war exercise this year to a brief 10 days, the U.S. imperialists seek the criminal aim of concluding a second Korean war through blitz warfare, according to their 9-day strategy and 5-day strategy plans, through preemptive nuclear strikes.

It is no accident that just before the start of the "Team Spirit" military exercise last year, then U.S. President Reagan made public the plan for a strike at the depth of the territory of our Republic, that the heads of the U.S. military confessed that "Team Spirit" is designed for a war without prior notice and that the U.S. imperialists' EA-4B plane, the aircraft for commanding a comprehensive nuclear war, is participating in the "Team Spirit" exercise.

According to the magazine COMMENTARIES ON REUNIFICATION, published in Japan, the U.S. imperialists made violent remarks about having used nuclear weapons over 33 times since 1945, and many areas of their targets were on the Korean peninsula.

All facts clearly prove that the frantic "Team Spirit" exercise of the U.S. imperialists and their puppets is a preliminary and test war motivated by the sinister design to ignite a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula at all risks and according to the U.S. imperialists' aggressive Asia-Pacific strategy.

The "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercise staged by U.S. imperialists shows that they are stupid. If the stupid fellows among the bellicose elements of the United States participating in this war exercise become reckless in playing with fire against us, this can spread into an all-out war.

Aggression and war are the means of existence for the imperialists. The U.S. imperialists are frantically running amok to realize their ambition of invading all of Korea, which they failed to achieve in the 1950's. The

No Tae-u group is attempting to prolong its life at the price set by its masters by serving as a detached force in executing their policy of aggression.

The rascals who have completed war preparations can ignite the fuse of war against our Republic at any moment.

The order of the respected supreme commander to our all armed forces and people to assume a full combat mobilization posture with heightened revolutionary vigilance is a wise measure of self-defense designed to deal with the urgent situation in which a war may break out at any moment.

Our people do not want war. However, if the U.S. imperialists and the puppets recklessly threaten us and attempt to reduce the lands of the fatherland to the site of a nuclear war and to inflict nuclear calamities on our people, we will never tolerate this.

Our people are closely watching with the sense of heightened vigilance the foolish act of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group, who are running wild and recklessly with a bundle of flames on top of a nuclear powder keg.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets should ponder the grave consequences of their adventurous play with fire and should act with discretion. They should immediately suspend their aggressive war exercise.

Commentary: Exercise 'Dangerous'

SK1803051189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—NODONG SIN-MUN in a commentary today hits out at the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique's "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises, a dangerous test nuclear war, which has entered into a full-dress active stage.

Noting that they are staging three-dimensional attack operations such as a large-scale joint landing operation, a nuclear bomb dropping exercise, a river-crossing operation and air mobile operation, marching up to the adjoining land of the military demarcation line, and yet they describe the exercises as "defensive" and as one aimed at "maintaining peace," the news analyst says:

The "Team Spirit 89" is a dangerous test nuclear war being staged on the biggest nuclear depot in the Far East.

The "Team Spirit" exercises now under way involve "lance" missiles, "B-52" strategic bombers, the aircraft carrier "Midway" and other massive nuclear equipment and units, and they are staging three-dimensional attack operations simulating an invasion of the northern half of Korea from the sky, ground and sea in an atmosphere of a real war.

A nuclear war on the Korean peninsula is not a matter of distant future but an imminent realistic one today and our people are exposed to the constant threat of nuclear war due to such reckless maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists.

If the nuclear war frenzy of the U.S. imperialists is allowed not only the Korean people but whole mankind will inevitably fall victims to a nuclear holocaust. The nuclear weapons stockpiled by the U.S. imperialists in south Korea are trained not on the northern half of Korea alone.

If a nuclear war broke out in Korea, it would rapidly spread to a global thermonuclear war and impose a nuclear scourge upon mankind.

The Korean peninsula must be turned into a zone without nuclear weapons at an early date.

Paying U.S. Expenses

SK1903083389 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 19 Mar 89*

["Figures Indict Traitor"—KCNA headline]

[Text] *Pyongyang March 19 (KCNA)*—NODONG SIN-MUN today comments on the fact that the No Tae-u group paid to the Americans 2,219.8 million dollars last year for the maintenance of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea.

It also notes that the puppets bear roughly a half of the expenses for the "Team Spirit" joint maneuvers this year.

The news analyst says:

It is admitted by the whole world that the U.S. imperialists are occupying South Korea and staging such massive war game as the "Team Spirit" together with the puppets according to their criminal Asian-Pacific strategy for grabbing the whole of Korea and invading other socialist countries.

Yet the South Korean puppets present large bundles of money squeezed from the people for the acts of aggression and war committed by the United States for its own "state interests."

Now the countries which hold dear national dignity are opposing domination and interference of outside forces and have the foreign military bases and aggression forces withdrawn and those countries which fail to do so get the charges for the use of military bases paid at least.

The South Korean puppets, however, even pay expenses for the maintenance of the occupation forces, entreating for their stay. This once again shows that South Korea is a colony of the United States and the No Tae-u group is a watchdog guarding the U.S. colony.

Our nation in the North and the South will never pardon the No Tae-u flunkyst traitors who leave a half of the country to the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and even pay them money for placing tens of millions of our people on the altar of nuclear war.

Called 'Downright Offensive'

SK1903084289 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826 GMT 19 Mar 89*

[Text] *Pyongyang March 19 (KCNA)*—NODONG SIN-MUN today comes out with an article by military writer Ok Kil-son under the headline "'Team Spirit' is Downright Offensive War Game Behind Smokescreen of 'Defence.'"

Noting that the "Team Spirit 89" joint maneuvers, an immediate offspring of the U.S. imperialists' Korean and Asian aggressive strategy, is an adventurous and provocative drill of aggressive war and an offensive war game in every respect directed against the northern half of Korea, the article says:

The aggressive and offensive nature of the joint manoeuvres finds clear manifestation, first of all, in the application of an "offensive strategy" oriented to "pre-emptive nuclear strike."

This "offensive strategy" is designed to turn the whole area of our republic into a theatre of war without distinction of front and rear through a comprehensive and three-dimensional mobilisation of conventional forces and nuclear weapons and electronics means. It is based on a "short war strategy" with nuclear strike as its main point.

"Let's look into the depth and strike at the depth," "let's win the war by blitzkrieg"—these are the mottos of the "Team Spirit."

The aggressive and offensive nature of this joint war game also finds vivid manifestation in the size of the military strength and its composition, military equipment and contents and methods of the exercises.

The U.S. imperialists throw into it large forces more than 200,000 strong including its three services and marines brought from its mainland and Pacific bases, its forces occupying South Korea and the puppet army.

It is only too clear that the U.S. imperialists hurl such large armed forces into the maneuvers to go over to an attack along the entire length of the Military Demarcation Line and, at the same time, launch into military actions on the East and West coasts.

Only aggressive attack units are thrown into the "Team Spirit" joint exercises.

The nuclear weapons and combat equipment mobilised by the U.S. imperialists in the war game bring its offensive nature into a bolder relief.

In each "Team Spirit" joint drill, the U.S. imperialists bring in more than one million tons of equipment and military supplies by flying even transport planes deployed for the European region. Mobilised in the maneuvers are the carrier flotilla of the U.S. 7th Fleet called "travelling nuclear base," nuclear attack planes including "B 52" strategic bombers, one of the "three pillars" of the U.S. strategic nuclear force, and nuclear missiles, and they stage nuclear attack exercises even with the mobilisation of the U.S. "strategic command" whose chief mission is to command a nuclear war and the nuclear war command plane "E 4B."

And the contents of the "Team Spirit" maneuvers are run through with attack drills for a thrust into the opposite side's area such as massive landing operation, river-crossing attack, strike at the depth and "commando" operations.

The offensive nature of the "Team Spirit" has become more pronounced with the application to it from 1983 of the principle of "air-ground warfare" newly brought forward by the U.S. imperialists.

All these facts leave no doubt as to the fact that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises are not "defensive maneuvers" but a preliminary war and a test nuclear war to attack our forward area, coasts and rear simultaneously on an overall scale.

'Heinous Intention To Seek Permanent Occupation'
SK1803102789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT
18 Mar 89

["Heinous Intention To Seek Permanent Occupation"]—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—MINJU CHO-SON today brings to light the sinister intention of the U.S. ruling circles to perpetuate their occupation of South Korea.

The U.S. President, U.S. state secretary and other U.S. warmongers recently blared that the U.S. troops' pullout from South Korea is "premature" as long as "threat from the North" continues and that they have no plan to withdraw the U.S. troops but will keep them in South Korea for an indefinite period because it is "dangerous" to pull them out.

The utterances of U.S. bellicose elements are a shameless outburst which discloses the U.S. imperialists' scheme to stay in South Korea for ever and continue along the line of war and division and a high-handed challenge to the courageous patriotic struggle of the South Korean people for independence against the United States avid for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces, the news analyst says, and goes on:

The U.S. imperialists overheated with preparations for aggression on the North are not entitled to speak of "invasion" and "threat."

Lurking behind U.S. ruling circles' pretext of "prematurity" is a sinister purpose to keep hold on South Korea permanently as a military bridgehead and "breakwater against communism" and achieve their wild ambition for aggression on the whole of Korea and Asia.

The U.S. imperialists must give up their anachronistic dream and unconditionally get away from South Korea with their troops, nuclear weapons and all other aggression armed forces.

'Frantic Military Racket' in South Denounced
SK1803050189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u military fascist clique on March 15 staged large-scale river-crossing and aerial mobile operation drills, part of the all-out offensive exercises of the "Team Spirit 89" joint manoeuvres simulating an attack on the northern half of the Republic, according to a report.

Mobilised in the frantic military racket were 13 echelons of troops supported by "F-14" and "F-16" attack planes, combat equipment transport and attack helicopters, 155 mm guns and tanks.

The war games reached the climax when the armed forces were hurled into the "target rear," the imaginary rear of the Northern half of the Republic.

KPA Communique Distributed as UN Document
SK2003053689 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0521 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—The communique of the supreme command of the Korean People's Army [KPA] concerning the order issued by the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army to the entire units of the KPA and Korean People's Security Forces and entire members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards to get ready for combat mobilization with heightened revolutionary vigilance to cope with the grave situation under which the danger of another war, a nuclear war has been created in Korea due to the reckless military provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique was distributed as official document S-20515 of the U.N. Security Council on March 13.

Seoul Students Hold Anti-U.S. Demonstrations
SK2003104089 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—Students in Seoul and Kwangju staged powerful anti-U.S. demonstrations on March 18 in demand of a halt to the criminal "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises and the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces from South Korea, according to a foreign press report.

Some 400 students of Tongguk University in Seoul demonstrated with bitter anti-U.S. sentiments that day, shouting "Yankee, go home" and "Drive out the U.S. troops."

When the protesters took to a street, shouting anti-U.S. slogans uninterruptedly, the riot police fired tear gas canisters at them in a desperate attempt to disperse them.

The angry students answered this with stone-throwing.

They burned the cursed U.S. Stars and Stripes, vehemently condemning the U.S. imperialists.

On March 18, some 800 students of Chonnam University in Kwangju waged a fierce anti-U.S. demonstration in demand of the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces from South Korea.

They stubbornly resisted the tear-gas firing riot police, throwing rocks at it.

Villagers in South Protest U.S. Bombing Drill
SK2003054889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0533 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—Inhabitants of Ujong-Myon, a Hwasong County, Kyonggi Province, South Korea, are waging fierce demonstration every day to check the bombing drill of the U.S. Air Force in the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises, according to a report from Seoul.

Some 300 inhabitants there thronged to the entrance to the firing range of the U.S. Air Force on the morning of March 18 and had since staged protests, chanting "halt the murderous firing by U.S. troops."

That afternoon, three of the demonstrators dauntlessly rushed into the range where the firing was going on and occupied targets.

Encouraged by this, the remaining 300 protesters stubbornly fought in an attempt to break into the firing range.

Upset by this, the fascist clique rushed some 1,200 combat police to the scene for brutal repression. As a result, a fierce fight erupted between the two sides and several demonstrators were seriously wounded and carried to a hospital.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors had to suspend the bombing drill at 16:00 that day in face of the powerful struggle of the enraged inhabitants, the radio said.

U.S. Forces Helicopter Crashes During Exercise
SK1803103489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—A large transport helicopter of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces, participating in the adventurous "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises, crashed on March 17 on a hill in Yongil County, North Kyongsang Province killing its four U.S. Army pilots, according to a report.

South Reserves Mobilized for 'Team Spirit'
SK2003053289 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0516 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u puppet clique on March 17 called up more than 10,000 men of the "Homeland Defence Reserve Forces" in Seoul area all of a sudden to join puppet army units in the central sector of the front in the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises, according to a report.

The puppet clique incited a war fever for northward invasion with the announcement that they would take a direct part in "operations" of puppet army units in active service till March 21.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets ventured a war, turning a deaf ear to our warnings, they would sustain more telling blows than in the past.

Overseas Korean Organizations Denounce U.S. Forces

North American Groups Comment
SK1703151889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 17 (KCNA)—NEW KOREA TIMES, a Korea newspaper published in Canada, carried a statement issued by the "American Alliance of the Hangyore Movement" and the "Youth Alliance of South Korea in the United States", [word indistinct] organisations, in joint name on March 2 under the title "We Denounce Anti-Reunification Forces Trampling Underfoot Our Will for Reunification".

The statement expressed national resentment against the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and the South Korean fascist clique who suppressed persons of the "National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy" (Chonminnyon) and foiled the preliminary talks for the convocation of a nationwide meeting.

The No Tae-u "regime" and the U.S. troops blocked and walked away those who were heading for Panmunjom to meet brothers and sisters in the North, it said, adding: This outrage brought into full light who are anti-reunification forces trying to bar the road to which compatriots in the North and the South and overseas compatriots turned out with one mind for independent reunification.

Our nation cannot realise the desire for reunification as long as the U.S. imperialist aggression forces keep the compatriots in the South from going to the North and the No Tae-u puppet clique runs wild in the fascist suppression, it noted.

It called for more vigorously staging the anti-U.S. movement for independence till the U.S. Government has withdrawn from the South all nuclear weapons deployed by it to drive our land into the ruins of permanent division and totally pull over 40,000 U.S. soldiers and military bases from different parts of the South.

Group in Japan Makes Statement

SK1803103789 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 18 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo March 17 (KNS-KCNA)—The Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) on March 16 published a statement on the entering of the criminal "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique into a full-dress stage of attack operations.

Branding this as one more open challenge to the ardent desire of the entire Korean people for peace and reunification and to world public opinion, the statement says:

The "Team Spirit" is a direct product of the aggressive Korean and Asian strategy of the U.S. imperialists and a preliminary war, a test nuclear war for a "preemptive strike" and all-out attack on the DPRK.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u puppet clique are shamelessly describing the adventurous war game as "defensive" and "annual exercises" in an effort to deceive and mislead world public opinion.

During his South Korea tour U.S. President Bush cried for "strengthening the security cooperation system," saying "there are no plans to withdraw the U.S. forces." This shows that the U.S. imperialists do not want peace and reunification of Korea but intend to reach their aggressive goal, keeping hold on South Korea indefinitely as a colony and military base.

The United States and the South Korean authorities must immediately stop the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and respond in real earnest to the DPRK's all-inclusive peace overture and proposal for dialogue, the statement says, and stresses:

The Japanese authorities must cease from joining in the "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers and obstructing peace in Korea and her reunification.

Foreign Media Criticize 'Team Spirit' Exercise

SK2003053089 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510 GMT 20 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—The "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, which have entered into a full-dress stage of attack operations came under fire in many countries recently.

Saying the South Korean authorities pretended to "put off" the announcement of the joint military exercises for this year, describing it as their "desire" to continue North-South dialogue, Radio Moscow in a news analyst's article pointed out that this meant neither a scaling down of the exercises nor delaying of the date of their start, but it was only for the purpose of propaganda.

It is very just for the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA] to have issued an order to the entire units of the KPA and Korean People's Security Forces and the entire members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards to get ready for combat mobilization, stressed the radio.

The Chinese Liberation Army daily in an article under the headline "Anachronistic Military Exercises" said the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises are seriously damaging the atmosphere of detente created on the Korean peninsula and rendering North-South dialogue difficult.

The Romanian paper SCINTEIA TINERETULUI in a commentary exposed the aggressive and offensive nature of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, saying the military maneuvers are obstructing and heightening the tensions on the Korean peninsula only to increase the danger of a new war.

The Setubal City, Portugal, Committee for Supporting Korea's Independent and Peaceful Reunification issued a statement denouncing the "Team Spirit 89."

Japanese personages of broad strata published an appeal in joint name demanding a halt to the "Team Spirit 89."

South Justice Minister's Remarks Denounced

SK1803045989 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 18 Mar 89*

["Outburst of Fascist Fanatic"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—The South Korean "justice minister" reportedly told reporters on March 15 that he would "sternly deal with violent action" during the "national referendum" for "interim evaluation" of the traitor No Tae-u slated for April.

This is an open threat and blackmail for guaranteeing at the point of the bayonet the long-term office of No Tae-u the traitor who is standing at the crossroads of life and death, forsaken by the people.

The "justice minister" also cried that the current labour disputes in South Korea "cannot be watched with a sense of relief and optimism" revealing his intention to suppress the workers' struggle for vital rights, branding it as manipulated by "seditious and backstage forces."

After hurling abuses with hostile feelings at the South Korean people's struggle for independence, democracy and reunification, he went so far as to say it was "judged" that there are in South Korea forces "instigated" by the North.

This revealed the criminal intention to incite antagonism within the nation and suppress all the patriotic struggle of the South Korean people, linking it with the North in a far-fetched way.

Overseas Editorial Decries Suppression in South
SK1803101489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—MINJOK SIBO, an overseas Koreans' newspaper, March 11 carried an editorial critical of the No Tae-u fascist clique's crack-down upon the people's forces for democracy.

The editorial says:

The fascist clique instituted an action against 10 odd figures of the "National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy" (Chonminnyon) who had been going to Panmunjom to participate in preliminary talks for the convocation of a nationwide meeting on charges of violation of the "National Security Law." The outrage is a suppression aimed to put a brake in the wheel of reunification and North-South dialogue that the people are going to promote independently and let the "government" monopolize the debate on reunification.

The editorial denounces the traitor No Tae-u for further intensifying the fascist suppression under the cloak of "democratisation", and continues:

No Tae-u should arrest and punish Chon Tu-hwan who is responsible for the massacre of citizens in Kwangju and eliminate the "irregularities of the Fifth Republic".

He should also immediately set free all political prisoners and abrogate draconic laws.

First of all, he should not obstruct the patriotic movement of the people for reunification.

The traitor No is manoeuvring to lay a stumbling-block in the way of national reunification and further intensify the suppression of the people with the backing of the U.S. troops, the editorial says, and stresses:

"Let us firmly unite the forces for the nation and democracy at home and abroad and forcefully push ahead with the movement for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, the resignation of No Tae-u and national reunification."

'Frantic Suppression' of Strike Denounced

NODONG SINMUN Commentary Cited
SK1803052989 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0505 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—Papers here today run commentaries denouncing the South Korean fascist clique for walking away 2,800 labour union members of the Seoul subway company who entered a general strike in demand of 8 hour workday, wage hike and payment of allowances.

In a signed commentary NODONG SINMUN says:

Some 7,000 riot police, fire engine, bulldozer and other heavy equipment were mobilized to arrest all the labour union members of the Seoul subway company who participated in a general strike, angered at the puppet Seoul subway authorities who have not yet introduced 8 hour workday, wage increase and payment of allowances several months after they promised.

The No Tae-u group rudely suppressed the struggle of the workers with government power instead of getting the Seoul subway authorities to accept the demand of the workers. This is a fascist violence showing the nature of military gangsters and an unpardonable challenge to the South Korean workers who demand vital rights and democracy.

The puppets' frantic suppression of the workers' struggle is a criminal move to threaten and put down the labour movement as a whole and the movement for independence, democracy and reunification.

Today the South Korean workers are paid a paltry amount of wages below the minimum cost of living, being driven hard at working places devoid of elementary labour conditions. The traitor No Tae-u said he would ensure three rights of labour to the workers, but discarded his "commitments" after he came to power.

The No Tae-u group cried that the struggle of the workers is an "illegal violent action" which should be "strongly countered." His outcries betray his intention to shackle the workers to fascist fetters and drive them hard on starvation wages. That is why the South Korean workers could not sit idle.

The No Tae-u group must not suppress the just struggle of the workers in support of entrepreneurs but meet their demand without delay and immediately and unconditionally set free the arrested workers.

South Alliance Issues Statement
SK2003101989 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—The South Korean Progressive Political Alliance issued a statement on March 17 denouncing the fascist clique's suppression of trade union members of the Seoul Subway Corp., according to a report.

The statement condemned the puppet clique for whisking away some 3,000 Seoul subway strikers who called for the right to existence and shifting the blame for the strike on to the workers and trade union side.

It urged the puppet authorities and the Seoul Subway Corp. side to release all the trade union members arrested and accept the demands of the strikers.

'Antigovernment Struggle' Growing in South

'Growing Fiercer'

SK1803051289 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0447 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—The anti-"government" struggle of the South Korean people of all strata is growing fiercer with the passage of time, according to a report.

The members of the "Homeland Defence Reserve Forces" in Seoul district who were forced into the "Team Spirit 89" joint military maneuvers in Umsong County, North Chungchong Province, on March 16 staged a sit-down against the puppet clique.

They occupied a road and blocked the passage of puppet army vehicles.

Students of the patriotic death-defying corps for the resignation of the "regime" of No Tae-u, the chief culprit of the Kwangju massacre and corruption, under the Seoul regional Federation of General Student Councils attacked the "Democratic Justice Party" building in Chongro District, Seoul, on March 17.

They demonstrated, shouting "Let us dig up the Kwangju bloodshed and the corruption" and "Let us achieve a special prosecution system and eradicate the corruption of the Fifth Republic."

A group of students on March 16 attacked the Yongdunpo District No. 2 office building of the "Democratic Justice Party" in Seoul.

The students threw flame bottles at the building, shouting "Execute No Tae-u and Chon Tu-hwan, chief culprits of the Kwangju massacre and the corruption of the Fifth Republic."

Rallies and demonstrations were held at ten universities in Seoul including Yonsei University on the same day demanding the liquidation of the "corruption of the Fifth Republic" and a stop to the suppression of the labour union.

That day, about 700 labour union members of the Seoul Subway Corporation on a strike and their families held an all-night sit-in at the building of an opposition party demanding the release of the labour union members arrested by the police, the implementation of the collective contract and a halt to the suppression of the labour union.

'Powerful Struggle' Waged

SK1903081989 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0812 GMT
19 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 19 (KCNA)—The South Korean people are continuously waging a powerful struggle against the war moves and anti-popular moves of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u puppet clique, according to reports.

About 1,000 people in Hwasong County, Kyonggi Province, held strong protests, clashing with 1,500 riot police, outside the U.S. Air Force firing range in Machyang-ri, Uijong Sub-County, over March 13-16 in order to check the bombing exercise of the U.S. Air Force, part of the "Team Spirit 89" military maneuvers.

They threw flame bottles at the post and facilities of the firing range on March 14.

Earlier, they had staged a powerful anti-American demonstration demanding the dismantling of the firing range.

Some 500 students of Seoul University held a rally in the campus plaza on March 17 demanding the resignation of the traitor No Tae-u.

They strongly demanded the resignation of the traitor No Tae-u, charging that the present "government" plans to make the interim evaluation at an early date before elimination of the irregularities of the Fifth Republic in an attempt to stabilise the vulnerable foothold and find a legitimate excuse for suppression of people.

The general student council of Korea University on March 16 lodged a protest to the puppet Ministry of Education and demanded the immediate cancellation of the approval of the appointment of a venal professor as president of the university.

In the protest, the general student council branded the "ministry's" unilateral approval of the appointment of a person rejected by students as president of the university as an "act going against campus democracy and autonomy."

About 1,500 students of the university on March 17 held protests against the increase of the registration fees.

Subway Strikers, Students Hold Protest Rally

SK2003054689 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0528 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—The Seoul subway strikers and the students and people encouraging their fight for vital rights, about 1,000 in all, held a rally Sunday denouncing the violent crackdown on the subway labour union.

At the rally, they demanded that all the arrested labour union members of the subway company including the chairman of the union be released immediately and that search for labour union members be revoked.

They also demanded that measures be taken to treat the workers injured by police and that the mastermind of police involved in the outrage be punished.

They warned that they would refuse any negotiation for subway operation and continue to fight, if this demand were not met.

Meanwhile, about 2,000 strikers of the Hyundai Heavy Industry in Ulsan are intensifying their struggle by building three-fold barricades at the entrance after they launched a sit-in for better treatment on March 18.

Students of Taegu, Kyemyong and three other universities in North Kyongsang Province on March 18 visited the Hyundai Heavy Industry strikers and encouraged their strike.

Some 500 workers from different parts of South Korea held a rally to carry forward the spirit of the arson at the "American Cultural Center" in Pusan and denounce the United States and No Tae-u in the Pusan "city hall" plaza on the same day on the seventh anniversary of the arson at the "American Cultural Center" in Pusan and staged a fierce protest, shouting "oust No Tae-u" and "arrest Chon Tu-hwan."

Chonminnyon To Launch Anti-No Movement
SK2003101189 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—Yi Pu-yong, permanent co-chairman of the "National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy" (Chonminnyon), told reporters on March 18 that his organization, in league with other dissident organizations, "would launch into a full-scale movement for the resignation of the No Tae-u 'government'" with the "interim evaluation" as an occasion, according to a report.

Earlier, on March 14, Chonminnyon formed the headquarters of joint struggle for the resignation of the No Tae-u "government" jointly with some 10 dissident organizations, and declared that it would call a rally to declare a fight for no-confidence in the No "government" on March 19.

Kwangju Victims' Families Hold News Conference
SK2003101589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 20 (KCNA)—The society of families of those missing in the May 18 Kwangju popular uprising in South Korea reportedly called a press conference on March 17 and demanded that investigation of those missing at the time of the Kwangju incident be made again by the "parliamentary ad hoc committee for investigation into the truth behind the Kwangju movement for democracy."

Calling the "ongoing investigation and examination of the missing people the replaying of the Kwangju massacre in an atmosphere of rampant intimidation, blackmail

and appeasement," this organization vowed to "totally repudiate the investigation and examination of the missing people which has been made by the group of murderers with oppression and surveillance."

It criticized the "restriction on the reporting period" by the puppet Kwangju city authorities as "intended to conceal the death toll and totally block a democratic investigation."

Paper Denounces Japanese Minister's Remarks
SK1903082689 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0818 GMT 19 Mar 89

["History of Aggression Cannot Be Concealed"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 19 (KCNA)—Japanese Minister of Education Nishioka claimed that the 1905 Russo-Japanese War "was not a war of aggression" but "a war for defence," blaring that "the war increased Japan's national strength." Commenting on this, MINJU CHO-SOON Sunday denounces his utterances as a shameless blast to distort the aggressive history of Japanese imperialism and worship and beautify militarism.

Noting that the Russo-Japanese War was a war of aggression waged by the Japanese imperialists to colonize Korea and China, the news analyst says:

It is nonsense and brigandish sophism to describe a war waged in other countries, not on the Japanese soil, to win colonies as a "war for defence".

The Russo-Japanese War was a war of aggression that revealed the sinister conspiracy between the Japanese imperialists and the U.S. and British imperialists on the road of aggression of the Far East including Korea as well as the Japanese imperialists' ambition of aggression and domination of Asia.

The Japanese reactionaries' attempts to distort criminal aggressive history of the Japanese imperialists are becoming more blatant of late.

The Korean people and all other Asian peoples who fell victims to the Japanese imperialists' aggression are now heightening vigilance against Japan which is racing headlong toward its conversion into a military power, while constantly increasing its armaments with an outcry for "military might commensurate with the national strength."

The Japanese reactionaries should act with discretion, clearly realizing that with no trick can they cover up their past history of aggression and crimes or evade their responsibility.

Moscow Meeting Commemorates Accord Signing
SK2003115989 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1300 GMT 14 Mar 89

[Text] Yesterday in Moscow there was a friendship meeting marking the 40th anniversary of signing of an agreement between the Soviet Union and Korea on economic and cultural cooperations.

Kwon Hui-kyong, our country's ambassador to the Soviet Union, and embassy functionaries were invited to the meeting, which was jointly hosted by the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and the Central Committee of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society.

Rogachev, Soviet deputy minister of foreign affairs; (Proday-Voda, deputy minister of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry); Trasov, first deputy chairman of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society Central Committee; deputy chairmen (Vlatov) and (Kaliyev); and other functionaries concerned participated in the meeting.

First, there was a reception. At the reception, the Soviet deputy minister of foreign affairs and our ambassador to the Soviet Union gave speeches.

The participants of the reception drank a toast to the long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, to the long life of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and to the long life of the respected Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev.

After the reception, the participants watched a Soviet movie.

Foreign Groups, Media Report Youth Fest Plans
SK1803100989 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA)—Foreign public is propagandizing the successful promotion of preparations for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students.

A Korean book and photo exhibition concerning the 13th world festival was held in Cuba recently.

Speaking at the exhibition, the second secretary of the Union of Young Communists at the Centre of the Cuban Workers said that the exhibition showed the visitors the achievements made by the Korean people and youth in the festival preparations and the revolution and construction under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il and that the festival would be an epoch-making event in strengthening anti-imperialist solidarity, peace, friendship and unity among peoples.

The Somali paper XIDDIGTA OKTOBAR noted that the Korean preparatory committee for the festival was stepping up preparations to decorate the 13th World

Festival of Youth and Students more beautifully and provide conveniences to participants in the festival. The festival song and dance pieces have already been selected and the construction projects for the festival have been completed or neared completion, it said.

It informed the readers that a grand national festival of Korean youth and students had been held since November 1988 and made enormous achievements in the course of creating an excellent atmosphere of the festival.

The Algerian paper L'UNITE said that the Korean people were making tremendous efforts to greet youth and students from different parts of the world.

Supreme People's Assembly To Convene 7 April
SK1703222389 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2210 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Decision by the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) of the DPRK on 17 March—read by announcer]

[Text] The Standing Committee of the SPA of the DPRK decides as follows:

The fifth session of the Eighth SPA of the DPRK will be convened on 7 April 1989 in Pyongyang. [Signed] The Standing Committee of the SPA of the DPRK [Dated] 17 Mar 1989, Pyongyang

South Korea

MAC Meeting Discusses 'Team Spirit'
SK1803121689 Seoul YONHAP in English 1212 GMT
18 Mar 89

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, March 18 (YONHAP)—North Korea reiterated Saturday its demand for a halt to the annual joint military exercises of South Korea and the United States, "Team Spirit."

At the 447th meeting of the Korea Military Armistice Commission [MAC], the U.S.-led United Nations Command [UNC] however dismissed the North Korean demand calling on the North to accept its invitation to observe the exercises which it said is defensive in nature.

North Korea's senior delegate Maj. Gen. Choe Ui-ung claimed Team Spirit 89 is "a disguised preparation for aggression," saying that the North could not help putting its entire forces and militia on full combat alert.

Senior UNC delegate Rear Adm. Larry G. Vogt of U.S. Navy rebuffed the claim and called on the North to end its "propaganda and rhetoric."

Vogt urged the North to accept the UNC proposal for prior notification and invitations to observe military exercises on both sides of the divided Korean peninsula.

Vogt also said North Korea's efforts to blame Team Spirit 89 for any delay in inter-Korean dialogue are "just a convenient, but incorrect excuse."

U.S. Marines Killed in Helicopter Crash
SK2003025689 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0100 GMT 20 Mar 89

[Text] According to a Pohang Radio Broadcasting Station report, a U.S. helicopter with 33 U.S. officers and enlisted men aboard crashed during a training flight. Approximately 20 soldiers are presumably dead.

The helicopter crashed at 0700 hours [2200 GMT] on 20 March at Kigye aggregate collection site in Immi-ri, Kigye-myon, Yongil County, North Kyongsang Province, during a training flight. According to the report from eyewitness Kim Yong-hyu, 44, the helicopter crashed during low altitude flying immediately after nine soldiers jumped out of the helicopter flying ahead of it.

Police authorities estimate that at least 20 U.S. soldiers are presumed dead. However, the details and cause of the accident are unknown because the U.S. Army authorities blocked the police's approach to the site.

TONG-A ILBO on Sharing Defense Burden
SK1703115989 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
14 Mar 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Bearing a Share of the Defense Burden Between Korea and the United States Should Be Based on Cold Calculation"]

[Text] Should U.S. troops continue to be stationed in Korea, and if so, until when? Let us set aside such a question for awhile. What we should coldly calculate and give deliberate thought to is the size of the defense expenditure our government should share for the stationing of U.S. troops in our country. The U.S. side insists that our country should, as a matter of course, increase its share of the upkeep of stationing U.S. troops in our country, whereas our country tries to bear as little a share as possible.

In a report made public on 13 March on Korea's share of the outlay for the stationing of U.S. troops in Korea, the Ministry of National Defense is reported to have said: Although Korea bears a far greater share of the cost for the stationing of U.S. troops in the host country than any other nation in the free world, the United States is increasing its pressure on Korea to share more. This being the case, it is necessary to make the U.S. Administration and Congress realize that Korea shoulders more of a defense cost than NATO or Japan.

As a matter of fact, an examination of the number of U.S. troops in Korea and the amount of money the host country spent for their stationing shows that the claim by our Ministry of National Defense is just. Where Korea spends \$2.3 billion for the upkeep of 43,000 U.S. troops, Japan spends \$2.5 billion for the stationing of 45,000

U.S. troops and West Germany annually spends somewhere between \$5-\$6 billion for 240,000 troops. Of course, we know that this expense for the stationing of U.S. troops in our country is mostly in the form of indirect expenses, such as the use of land, not direct assistance from the national budget. In addition, the U.S. side asserts that the presence of U.S. troops in Korea contributes to the Korean economy—\$1,021,000,000 during 1987 alone.

It is not our intention to suggest how much of a defense burden is appropriate for our country to shoulder. We only urge the government to deliberately take into account two conditions as recommended by some academics: the principle of benefit, meaning that our country should pay for the security provided by the presence of U.S. troops; and the pay-as-you-can principle, which means that our country should pay more in proportion to our economic growth.

At this juncture, we have one thing to reiterate: that the stationing of U.S. troops in our country has not been intended to serve either Korea or the United States unilaterally, disregarding whatever form it may take in the future. It is true that since the end of World War II the U.S. forces have played the role of vanguard union in carrying out the so-called Pax Americana, as the champion and as a guardpost of liberal ideology. As a matter of fact, U.S. Forces stationed in Korea have played their share of this role.

However, after the war in Vietnam the United States gave up being the global police. Now the United States stations its forces abroad only for its national interest, no longer championing the defense of freedom or ideology. It was an ideological passion for the defense of freedom and democracy that brought U.S. troops to Korea during the Korean war. But now the United States keeps its forces stationed abroad based on a cold calculation, distancing itself from ideological passion.

From our point of view, this means that the United States no longer spends its money for such causes as democracy, free trade, or human rights. Rather, the presence of U.S. troops in Korea should be seen in light of the fact that the center of the world economy is shifting from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In this context, it is undeniable that the United States wants to keep Japan tied to its political and economic sphere and that the stationing of U.S. forces in Korea is more for this reason than anything else. It is, therefore, natural to take this point into account when calculating our share of the defense burden.

In considering this issue in terms of national interests, we are no exception. Under the circumstances in which Pyongyang's armed forces are overwhelmingly superior to ours, the presence of U.S. troops in our country has been, at least up until now, the only way to make up for the gap between the military strength in the North and South.

This being the case, calculating the defense burden should be based on comparing these facts coldly. There is no room for emotion or ideological passion. Only calculation and dealing toward this cold reality can avoid producing unnecessary noise.

Students Mark Arson at U.S. Cultural Center
SK1803125089 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
1100 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] About 400 students belonging to Sochongnyon [Seoul Area Federation of Student Councils] gathered in Manhae Plaza at Tongguk University, Pil-tong, Seoul, at 1500 today and held a rally marking the seventh anniversary of setting fire to the U.S. Cultural Center in Pusan. They also staged a demonstration.

In today's rally the students stressed that the anti-U.S. sentiment, which began to erupt with the accident at the Pusan U.S. Cultural Center in 1982, today has spread nationwide.

They demanded the immediate suspension of the "Team Spirit" exercise and the withdrawal of nuclear weapons. The students stated that the present government blocked the working-level talks for the World Festival of Youth and Students while outwardly pushing ahead with the northern policy. They claimed that the present government has no will for reunification. The students demanded President No Tae-u's resignation.

After the rally the students attempted to advance outside the school gate at around 1630. However, they demonstrated for about 1 hour in confrontation with the police who blocked them.

Editorial Views U.S. Role in Pacific Basin
SK1903024589 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
19 Mar 89 p 8

[Editorial: "U.S. Option in Pacific Basin"]

[Text] The past several years, in particular, have seen the Asian rim of the Pacific emerging in global geopolitics. Compounding the emergence has been the Soviets' unreserved resolve to have their influence felt in the region following their steady military buildup.

Naturally, how the United States will face that challenge draws interest from those countries whose fate is staked on the new evolvement. Washington, despite its apparent intention to stay a Pacific power, remains short of identifying its concrete agenda to make the resolve a reality.

As such, noteworthy is a report issued two days ago by American and Japanese experts on "(Soviet leader Mikhail) Gorbachev's Asian Policy: Refashioning American and Japanese Policy Toward the Soviet Union." The U.N. Association of the United States and the Asia Pacific Association of Japan also covered other Asian countries, along with Washington-Tokyo bilateral relations, in dealing with the subject.

In a nutshell, the experts said that Japan and America should stop arguing between themselves and begin working together to meet the challenge of increasing Soviet influence in Asia. Their warning is that if the two fail to manage their bilateral relations and relations with other states in the Asian-Pacific region, the new Soviet interests in the Pacific will "present difficulties" to Washington. Their evaluation, certainly, underscores the skepticism of those who think that Washington is often prone to be engrossed in smaller, not greater and eventual, causes. They tend to attribute unsuccessful American foreign policies to that inclination which they see is unbecoming of a global leader.

McGeorge Bundy, national security adviser to the late President Kennedy, said that the Soviets could take advantage of strained relations between the United States, Japan and other Pacific nations to win support for proposals which greatly favor Moscow. What Bundy warned is, perhaps, common sense; yet what deserves to be noted is that such a warning has become necessary, in actuality, at all.

One such proposal might be Gorbachev's offer to withdraw Soviet forces from Cam Ranh Bay in exchange for an American military withdrawal from the Philippines. In a simplistic logic, it may sound plausible, but a substantial analysis will lead one easily to discern the imbalanced values: the American base structure in the Pacific is a critical anchor for Washington's regional security and stability.

The comparison, if taken for granted, indicates that the Soviets might be intended to use such proposals to divide the United States from its Asian allies. Indeed, Gorbachev's pacification overture has paid off to a certain extent in the Asian-Pacific theater. And the geopolitical threat from the Kremlin now can hardly overshadow all other issues, including those arising from economic feuds. Now bilateral bickerings such as trade friction is apt to influence the relationship itself between America and its Asian allies. The growing awareness of national identity and resultant assertive penchant of America's Asian allies underline that trend.

All these are what Washington should take into account if it is to stay a Pacific power in a subtle competition with Moscow. Ironically, despite all this, America would find itself in a dilemma of having to refrain from damaging, or perhaps support, the perestroika of Gorbachev and, for that matter, his glasnost. A successful implementation of America's diplomacy in the Asian-Pacific region should lie in heading off any destructive effect in terms of relations with its Asian friends.

Washington needs to be sensitive to the ways in which pressure, mostly felt in trade friction, is apt to ignite the embers of anti-Americanism. A logic, rooted deep in the time-honored way of life and cultural background of a country, cannot always apply to others of different roots.

An attempt to apply the same logical yardstick to others could lead to an emotional backlash. Such a backlash, if provoked without sufficient reasons, must be a folly that would help neither side.

South Korea, as President George Bush told the National Assembly last month during his visit here, may be "a rising nation ... a vibrant, dynamic nation ... a nation riding the crest of the wave of the future." And close economic and strategic relationship between Korea and the United States, as Bush said, is desired to remain as it is—"a pillar of peace in East Asia." The geostrategic importance of Korea, in all practical analysis, is vindicative of Bush's definition. South Korea is the only site where America keeps a military presence in the East Asian continent. This geostrategic implication explains in itself how south Korea is vital to Washington's global strategy. No doubt, the American military presence here is an assuring deterrence against the aggressive threats from north Korea, whose military adventurism, as it showed with waging the Korean War in 1950, would cause a flareup that would engulf others, shaking the regional stability.

It is logical enough for security partners to share the burden. Yet, the American request for Korea's share is inappropriate in the eyes of Koreans at least. Though not identical, this also is true of America's pressure on trade. As Secretary of State James Baker indicated, U.S. commitment to the security of Korea has contributed to making what Korea's economy has become today. Yet, Baker pointed out, Korea has only recently come out of the shadows of being a debtor nation. The economic and security partnership between Seoul and Washington should be an enduring one to benefit both sides. A long-ranged perspective, in which short-sighted precipitousness should be refrained from, should be made the guiding domain for their relationship. This is the way of keeping the inner garden in good shape in order to better cope with external challenges.

Ministers To Pay Visit to United States
SK1803074589 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
18 Mar 89 p 6

[Text] High-ranking government officials will visit the United States this month to head off possible U.S. trade retaliation in the latest strain on relations between the two countries.

Trade and Industry Minister Han Sung-su is expected to visit the United States in late April, following a working-level delegation led by Kim Chol-su, first assistant trade and industry minister, this month, officials at the Economic Planning Board said yesterday.

The visits are designed to avoid the designation of priority country for negotiations to lower trade barriers. The U.S. administration is expected to assign the designation by mid-May.

The south Korean government is also considering a visit by Deputy Premier Cho Sun, who is also economic planning minister. The working-level delegation will explain Seoul's position on a draft trade barrier report expected to be drawn up by the middle of this month by the U.S. trade representative.

The dates for Han's and Cho's visits will be fixed after the government watches developments inside the U.S. administration.

In addition, south Korea hopes to send trade missions and exchange persons on a non-governmental basis as part of its efforts to lessen the U.S. threats.

The government has invited 10 staff members of U.S. congressmen for a 10-day visit beginning Friday and a south Korean-U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Industry seminar will be held Friday and Saturday on Cheju island.

A conference on south Korean-U.S. finance April 12 follows an electronic goods buying mission March 12-26 and trade mission March 26-April 11.

A delegation to buy agricultural products will visit the United States April 24-May 6 and a trade mission is also slated for May 13-18.

No Announces Postponement of Appraisal
SK2003014989 Seoul Television Service in Korean
0030 GMT 20 Mar 89

["Special statement" by ROK President No Tae-u at Chongwadae—live]

[Text] Dear fellow countrymen: To open the new era of democracy, you directly elected me as president. It is now 1 year since I took the office of president.

I have carried out my work with the attitude of doing the utmost to fulfill the promises I made to the people and the historic missions assigned to me.

Some time ago I directed the Democratic Justice Party and the government to make preparations for conducting the midterm appraisal which I promised to my fellow countrymen.

While looking straight at today's reality in which the great achievements made by all of the people and new challenges are intersecting each other, I studied a plan to conduct the midterm appraisal in the form of national referendum in order to effect a new turning point for such a situation.

By conducting a national referendum amid a calm atmosphere in which the people's will for pros and cons can be freely reflected, I wanted to have the implementation of my pledges evaluated by all of you, my fellow countrymen, and to obtain the people's consent for the path we should follow. I believed that this form of appraisal would enable all of us to find a new starting point.

The midterm appraisal is the issue of fulfilling the pledge made between the people and me, the president. Therefore, this appraisal should not be the subject of a dispute between the ruling and opposition camps nor should it be the source of confrontation dividing the people.

Proceeding from this position, I met with leaders from all walks of life including the presidents of the three opposition parties, and we frankly exchanged our views and opinions. In particular, I asked the leaders of the opposition parties to render their cooperation to ensure that the midterm appraisal be conducted in a just and fair manner without disorder.

However, dear fellow countrymen, what are the realities currently taking place in our society regarding the issue of the midterm appraisal?

Is it heading in a desirable direction? Even before the official announcement of the national referendum, the political scene is dashing toward confrontation and heading for a crash.

Each of the political parties which share the operation of the political affairs of the country has a different view on the appraisal; and each party differs in their opinion as to its time, method, and nature. One opposition party is opposed to conducting an interim appraisal at this time and maintains that it should be postponed. Another party maintains that if it is conducted, it should be an appraisal of policies. And still another party maintains that it should be a national referendum for a vote of confidence. A lawyers' association announced that holding an interim appraisal in the form of a national referendum itself is a breach of the Constitution.

This situation, after all, clouds the original meaning of the interim appraisal which is intended to stabilize the political situation and to implement more solid democratization. Furthermore, in this situation where the people are concerned about the phenomena typical of a transitional period, the leftist violent forces in one segment of society are destroying and seizing public facilities and calling for the overthrow of the government. Using the interim appraisal as a foothold to overthrow the liberal democratic system, they are openly attempting to increase acts of violence and destruction everywhere. What are they trying to accomplish by overthrowing the 1-year-old legitimate democratic government?

My desire to take an interim appraisal is likely to again lead to an excessively heated and confused situation as witnessed during the last presidential election campaign. Rather than a vote asking the people for a sensible judgment of high quality in a calm, composed atmosphere, a confrontation is about to recur between the violent forces throwing rocks and firebombs and the authorities which must repress them with tear gas. All of the conflicts and confrontation factors within us are likely to burst forth

explosively at the same time, thus making it impossible to hold a smooth interim appraisal. I had to think deeply of the consequences that the country and the people would be forced to suffer from this.

You, the people, have been concerned about the labor-management disputes, including the Seoul subway strike, and the campus disturbances this spring. If a national referendum is held at this time, further spreading illegal collective actions and acts of violence and destruction, this society will be in extreme turmoil.

If political and social unrest is created because of this problem, how would our economic situation, including exports and prices, become? Security for the people's livelihood and social discipline as well would be destroyed. Many social leaders and people whom I have met said that the conduct of a plebiscite at this time would invite only the waste of national strength and the division of the people, rather than national unity and consensus.

Today's reality surrounding the problem of conducting an interim appraisal has gone so far as to reveal the risk of endangering the fixation of the new democratic government and democratic order and driving the country into a state of crisis, thus going against its original goal.

Furthermore, today when the people are feeling uneasy about the recent transitional phenomenon, if the whole society and country become extremely chaotic, who would suffer the damage from this? There are many people who say that if the president and the government win the people's confidence in a plebiscite, even though a momentary chaotic situation is unfolded thereby, their strength will become stronger. However, I think that we should not impose heavy burdens and unrest that the plebiscite would invite on the country and the people. I firmly believe that as president I should not do anything that brings about division and chaos under any circumstance.

My fellow countrymen: As the president who is responsible for the present and future of the country, I make clear my decision on this issue with solemn thought. I determine that holding a national referendum for the interim appraisal at this time will not help the country and the people. Therefore, I will not conduct an interim appraisal at this time. In the future, I will prudently review the issue of the interim appraisal as to its time and method and will decide in such a way as to certainly help the future of the country.

My fellow countrymen: I have made the decision today with resolute will. As president I will concentrate all of my strength on resolving all problems that we have assumed at present. I will bring violence, destructive activities, and all sorts of illegal and collectivist activities under control; and thus, we will achieve a stable society. I will resolve important issues, including those concerning economy, democracy, and welfare, one by one. The problem of liquidating the wrongdoings of the past era should be concluded through political negotiations between the ruling and opposition parties.

The practical work of liquidating various legacies of the past, including healing wounds, scars, and grievances; restoring honor; and compensating those wronged should be accelerated.

My fellow countrymen: Today all of us are standing at the crossroads of determining whether we should continue to advance toward tomorrow on the basis of our achievements won in blood and sweat or whether we should just give up. I urge my fellow countrymen to display once again the united strength with which you made the Seoul Olympics successful in surmounting today's difficulties. I expect that both ruling and opposition party politicians, leading figures of all walks of life, and the people will cooperate in leading this country to the best way with my decision today as an occasion to mark this cooperation. Thank you.

Marks 'Abrupt Policy Shift'

SK2003030189 Seoul YONHAP in English 0247 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 20 (YONHAP)—In an abrupt policy shift, President No Tae-u Monday called off an appraisal of his presidency indefinitely.

"I don't think it would be helpful to the nation and the people to conduct at this time a national referendum on the interim appraisal," he said in a special statement televised nationwide.

The government will decide on this matter in a way helpful to the future of the nation after giving it a prudent review as to its timing and method, the president said.

Less than a month ago, No said he would conduct a national referendum in the near future as he had pledged in his 1987 presidential election campaign. The government reportedly scheduled to hold the referendum on April 12.

In a 12-minute statement, No said he will seek to stabilize society first by quelling various illegal collective acts and violent destructive acts that are threatening to subvert the democratic order.

He called for political efforts by the ruling and opposition parties to conclude the task of cleaning up the wrongdoings of the past.

Substantial efforts should be hurried to liquidate past grudges, restore honor and compensate the victims of the wrongdoings, the president said.

The political community was heading for confrontations and clashes even without an announcement of a national referendum.

"Many leaders of society and the people whom I have met have been worried that a national referendum would result in waste of national energies and disintegration of the people rather than bringing about national unity and consensus," No said.

"Regardless of the result, I concluded that I could not give such burden and unrest to the nation and the people."

Some quarters in the ruling Democratic Justice Party, founded by former President Chon Tu-hwan eight years ago, have demanded that No stake the presidency on the appraisal in order to change the political tide.

Since the April 1988 general elections, the ruling party has been pestered by the three opposition parties, which hold a combined majority in the single-house National Assembly.

The opposition parties agreed that No should postpone the appraisal, demanding that first he solve the problems left over by Chon's administration.

As the ruling camp pushed for an early national referendum the three opposition parties launched nationwide campaigns over the weekend against the No government.

Opposition Welcomes Statement

SK2003081789 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 20 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u's decision to indefinitely postpone an appraisal of his presidency won widespread approval from ruling and opposition parties alike Monday. In statements following a TV appearance in which No announced the decision, spokesmen for their parties welcomed the postponement, saying it will help political stability by avoiding a confrontation between the ruling and opposition parties.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party said, "the president's decision is a victory for the whole nation. It will put an end to unnecessary social disorder and give momentum to democratization amid stability and steady growth of the nation, which is what the people are longing for."

It promised to make all efforts to develop a welfare nation in which law and order are maintained and people live at ease.

Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy said, "with the decision, concern that the political situation was headed for a catastrophe was removed and a turning point to liquidate the past misdeeds and democratize the nation was provided."

The party urged No to consult the opposition on pending political issues without hesitation.

The Reunification Democratic Party, which has just launched an anti-No campaign, said jubilantly, "the decision means the ruling camp's surrender to our party's line against an early interim test without liquidation of past misdeeds."

The party, headed by Kim Yong-sam, called on the government to apologize for its "unprincipled and opportunistic policies" on the evaluation and to liquidate past wrongs and implement reforms that will meet the people's expectations.

The New Democratic Republican Party said, "our party takes it for granted that the government announced the postponement of the interim test." It urged the government to "carry out the historic mission" of solving pending issues.

The only note of discord came from a dissident group that organized a rally in Seoul Sunday of some 7,000 students and workers to oust No. It said, "The announcement is a deception and ridicules the nation. It acknowledges that the No government was vetoed by the people."

TONG-A ILBO Poll on Midterm Appraisal
SK1703114889 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
15 Mar 89 p 1

[Excerpt] On the issue of President No Tae-u's midterm appraisal, four out of five of our people said that he must fulfill "his promise to subject himself to a vote of confidence" and that this must be done in a "referendum." Of the respondents, 45.6 percent said that they would vote their confidence in him if a vote of confidence is held tomorrow, while 27.1 percent said that they would not. This shows that, even though more people said they would vote for him than said would not, less than 50 percent said they would vote their confidence in him.

This was shown in a survey conducted by TONG-A ILBO's opinion poll department in cooperation with Seoul Marketing Survey, a poll organization, between 1 and 5 March in which 2,000 men and women from across the country were questioned.

On President No's promise to subject himself to a vote of confidence, 80.7 percent said that he "must fulfill his promise." Also, on the method of the midterm appraisal, 34 percent said that this must be done in a "referendum." On the question "What will you do if a vote of confidence is held tomorrow?" 45.6 percent said they would vote their confidence in him; 27.1 percent said they would not; 7.5 percent said they would not vote; and 19.8 percent reserved their decision by saying they do not know.

TONG-A ILBO polled 2,000 adult men and women last May on the questions "Must President No fulfill his promise to subject himself to a vote of confidence?"; "How must a midterm appraisal take place?"; and "Will you vote your confidence in him?" We compared the

May 1988 poll to the current poll. The number of people who said "He must fulfill his promise without fail" did not show a substantial increase, from 78.9 percent to 80.7 percent; the number of people who said "A midterm appraisal must take place in the form of referendum" showed a big increase, from 69.1 percent to 84 percent; the number of people who said "I will vote my confidence in him" showed a slight increase, from 39.2 percent to 45.6 percent; the number of people who said "I will not vote my confidence in him" and who said "I will not vote" did not show substantial fluctuations, from 25 percent to 27.1 percent and from 7.8 percent to 7.5 percent, respectively; and the number of people who reserved their decision by saying, "I do not know," showed a significant decrease, from 28 percent to 19.8 percent.

Also, on the question "Must President No resign if he fails to win a majority of votes in a vote of confidence?" 41.3 percent said that "he must resign" from the presidency, while 49.5 percent said that "he must stay in power to renovate state affairs." This is noteworthy.

On the question of how to solve the political situation if President No resigns as a result of the vote of confidence, 32 percent said that "the National Assembly must be also dissolved to hold new general elections;" 26.1 percent preferred to "revise the Constitution in favor of a cabinet system and to elect a new government and National Assembly;" and 25.3 percent preferred to "again elect a president only." [passage omitted]

Dissidents, Students Call for Ouster of No
SK2003015589 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT
20 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 20 (YONHAP)—About 7,000 workers, dissidents and students called for the ouster of President No Tae-u in a rally on a campus here Sunday afternoon.

Protesters accused the No government of suppressing grass-roots struggles for the right to live and movements for democratization and reunification, and of deceiving the nation by saying the irregularities of the Chon Tu-hwan government have been liquidated.

They demanded that the government abolish undemocratic laws, protect the political freedom of workers and farmers and release all arrested workers and farmers.

Among the protesters were members of 13 dissident groups and the National Student Representatives' Council and some 200 members of the Seoul Subway Corp. union.

After the rally staged on the campus of Hanyang University, about 1,000 protesters clashed with riot police when they tried to take to the streets.

No injuries were reported during the 30-minute confrontation, police said.

Chonchonghyop, Chondaehyop To Attend Youth Fest
SK1903041589 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
19 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Chonchonghyop (the National Council of Youth Representatives) will form a team jointly with Chondaehyop (the National Council of Student Representatives) to take part in the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students slated for July in Pyongyang.

In a joint press conference with Chondaehyop leaders, Yi Pom-yong, 34-year-old head of the youth organization, said yesterday the southern delegation to the Pyongyang festival would include members from six groups under the wing of Chonchonghyop.

"Even though Chondaehyop is the sole organization to be invited by North Korea, it is desirable for members from youth groups and students to team up for the delegation," he said.

Chonchonghyop and Chondaehyop leaders reached a conclusion to form a joint delegation as the upcoming event is open to not only students but also young workers in factories and farm hands in rural areas, Yi observed.

Chonchonghyop is a federation of young activists campaigning against nuclear weapons, environmental pollution and one-sided distribution of wealth.

Soviets To Lift Restrictions for ROK Tourists
SK1903041389 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
19 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] The Soviet government will issue tourist visas to South Koreans without restriction, a vernacular daily reported yesterday.

According to a Moscow-dated article in the TONG-A ILBO, the Soviet authorities also plan to send Soviet tourists to Korea aboard ocean-going pleasure boats.

The new Soviet open-door policy was revealed in seminar sponsored by Intourist, the Soviet national tourism agency, March 10-17 in Moscow.

A representative of the Korea National Tourism Corp. and an executive of Aju Tourist Service Co. of Korea participated in the seminar and discussed tourist exchanges between the two countries with Soviet officials, according to the report.

In the seminar, Soviet officials proposed a tourism joint venture with Korea as well as the lifting of restrictions on visa issuance to Korean tourists.

So far, cases of Soviet visa issuance to Koreans have been very rare and have been done in third countries because the two countries have no diplomatic ties.

In the seminar, delegates from 15 republics of the Soviet Union waged a hectic publicity campaign to promote tourism in their republics. About 700 tourist agents and officials from across the world attended the seminar, the report said.

At present, the Soviet Union opens only 150 areas to foreign tourists, including Moscow and Leningrad. Such sensitive areas as Vladivostok have not been opened yet, according to the report.

Subway Strikers Sit-In at Opposition Headquarters
SK1903020389 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
19 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] The number of sit-in demonstrators has increased at head offices of the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) as the subway strike entered its fourth day today.

More than 2,000 union members continued to occupy the RDP headquarters, some 500 more than the day before, while protesters at the PPD increased to nearly 500 from 300, spokesmen for both parties said.

"Strikers keep coming despite all the guards posted at the gate. They appear to be holding out well and planning to stay as long as necessary," an RDP spokesman said.

Not much progress was reported in the much-hoped-for normalization of the subway system with strikers refusing to even hold negotiations unless all of their detained colleagues are released.

Police, meanwhile, yesterday arrested 12 more people for violations of the Labor Dispute Adjustment Law, dereliction and hampering of duty, and violence.

In addition to the 14 arrested so far who include union president Chong Yun-kwang, police are investigating 24 more strikers suspected of leading violent demonstrations and are expected to file charges against four or five of them.

Investigators are also searching for 15 others for their roles in instigating work stoppages.

The subway union, however, appears untouched by the wave of arrests and round-ups, quickly electing So Chang-ho as acting president at the RDP office.

Sit-in protesters at the PPD head office elected their own representative and prepared for a prolonged strike by securing blankets and mattresses.

Meanwhile, the traffic congestion caused by the subway strike has eased.

No changes were seen at subway stations as Line 3 remained completely paralyzed while Lines 1, 2 and 4 maintained limited service.

Some 83 percent of the 5,900 union members reported to work as of yesterday morning, but a majority of them refused to assume their duties unless their demands were fully met, forcing the subway corporation to suspend most service.

Current service is being sustained by 85 locomotive operators, just 17.2 percent of the necessary 493, and 66 conductors, a mere 12.9 percent of the usually employed 511 personnel.

Justice Minister Warns Against Violence
SK1803024689 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
18 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Minister of Justice Ho Hyong-ku warned yesterday that law-enforcement agencies will sternly deal with any acts of violence during strikes and demonstrations in a drive to maintain law and order.

Minister Ho told a meeting of senior prosecutors that any collective action which disrupts law and order will not be tolerated, saying that those who live up to the cause of democratization should be distinguished from forces who are trying to destroy the order of democracy.

Prosecutors discussed ways of establishing law and order in preparation for the upcoming midterm appraisal of President No Tae-u's policies. Minister Ho presided over the meeting held at the Prosecutor General's Office for the first time this year.

The minister instructed prosecutors to punish harshly law-enforcement officers who infringe on human rights, saying that "we should draw a lesson from past unfortunate cases."

Prosecutor General Kim Ki-chon ordered that special investigation teams be formed to ferret out those on wanted lists, including Capt. Yi Kun-an. Yi has fled after dissidents, including Kim Kun-tae, charged that they were tortured by the police officer while undergoing interrogation.

Meanwhile, the National Police Headquarters (NPH) yesterday told police chiefs across the nation to crack down on those who engage in the five "social evils," including the selling of women and drug-trafficking, an NPH spokesman said.

The special inspection will last until this month, he said.

The spokesman said NPH will set up a communications network covering outlying areas of Seoul, including Incheon as well as the capital, to resolve crimes in their initial stages as quickly as possible.

Police, in cooperation with various social organizations, will conducted a campaign to fight against crimes, he said.

*** Two Major Power Groups Back President No**
41070048 Seoul SINDONG-A in Korean
Jan 89 pp 226-235

[Article by senior reporter Kim Tae-kon: "The No Tae-u Connection With Two Power Groups, New Elders' Group and TK (Taegu City-North Kyongsang Province) Mafia"]

[Excerpts] Large-Scale Reshuffle Leaves Much To Be Desired

Through the cabinet reshuffle on 5 December 1988 and the reorganization of the high-ranking party posts of the DJP [Democratic Justice Party] on 8 December 1988, the government's circle of power has undergone a complete change in the less than 9 months since it began. Of the 27 cabinet-level personnel, 23 people (including the prime minister) were replaced in the cabinet reshuffle, and the 3 key party posts were replaced in this reorganization, which, on the surface, appeared to be a complete structuring of the framework rather than a simple reorganization. It was a large-scale reorganization because of criticism that the government was moving too slowly on democratization and settling the problems of the Fifth Republic. Complaints were pouring in even from within the government circle itself about President No Tae-u's method of government administration. This made the process of the reorganization a matter of great interest.

However, public opinion seems to indicate that the results did not quite achieve the "bold and decisive" personnel changes that the general public had been anticipating. In other words, it was necessary for the government to show a new, more active, "No Tae-u style" of government administration which would have the appearance of working hard to rid itself of the remnants of the Fifth Republic in the make-up of the Sixth Republic. President No's selection of cabinet and party officials should have demonstrated this, but instead it left much to be desired. Even if we take into account the difficulty in choosing the right people when there is a lack of highly-qualified individuals, the selections were not in harmony with the people's wishes.

In particular, some say that the issue of personnel selection was to be a key measure in easing the deterioration of support from certain geographic regions, but it has not even achieved a geographic balance. In other words, on the surface, the government appears to have given much thought to making some sort of regional arrangements, but in reality this is not so.

Securing the Heart of the TK Connection

First of all, the following is the regional distribution of the 27 cabinet-level officials: 6 from Seoul and Kyonggi Province (Minister of Foreign Affairs Choe Ho-chung; Minister of Home Affairs Yi Han-tong; Minister of Energy and Resources Yi Pong-so; Minister of National Unification

Board Yi Hong-ku; Second Minister of State Kim Yong-chong; and Minister of the Government Legislative Administration Agency Hyon Hong-chu); 2 from Kangwon Province (Deputy Prime Minister Cho Sun and Minister of Trade and Industry Han Sung-su); 3 from Chungchong Province (Minister of Finance Yi Kyu-song; Minister of National Defense Yi Sang-hun, and First Minister of State Chong Chong-taek); 4 from Cholla Province (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Kim Sik; Minister of National Construction Pak Sung; Minister of Communications Choe Yong-chol; and Mayor of Seoul City Ko Kon); 7 from Taegu City and North Kyongsang Province (Minister of Sports Kim Chip; Minister of Health and Social Affairs Mun Tae-chun; Minister of Labor Chang Yong-chol; Minister of Transportation Kim Chang-kun; Minister of Science and Technology Yi Sang-hui; Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Agency Yi Sang-yon; and Minister of the Agency for National Security Planning Pak Se-chik); 3 from Pusan and South Kyongsang (Minister of Justice Ho Hyong-ku; Minister of Culture and Information Choe Pyong-yol; and Minister of Government Administration Kim Yong-kap); 2 from North Korean provinces (Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun and Minister of Education Chong Won-sik). While this distribution shows that the Yongnam region centered on Taegu City and North Kyongsang Province are still over represented, the government has made some efforts toward a regional balance.

However, compared with the make-up of the first cabinet of the Sixth Republic, which was completed on 19 February 1988, this distribution clearly shows a reduction of numbers from the central region, which is moderate in terms of regional antagonism, and an expansion of the power of Taegu City and North Kyongsang Province. The first cabinet had the following distribution of the 27 cabinet-level appointees: 11 from Seoul City and Kyonggi Province, 1 from Kangwon Province, 3 from Chungchong Province, 4 from South and North Cholla Province, 4 from Taegu City and North Kyongsang Province (including the First Minister of State Kim Yun-hwan who was appointed on 7 March 1988), 2 from South Kyongsang, 1 from Cheju Province, and 1 from North Pyongan Province.

Together with such a distribution, what catches our eyes is the seizure of power by the "TK Group." Based on the fact that the recent cabinet reshuffle was aimed at establishing President No Tae-u's authority, and since highly qualified people were appointed to the prime minister and deputy prime minister positions, it is said that the influence of the Chongwadae staff, particularly the influence of the Assistant to the President for Policy Pak Chol-on and the Secretary for Economic Affairs Mun Hui-kap will be strong in this administration. They are all from the TK Group and are graduates of Kyongbuk High School, which is President No's alma mater and the heart of the TK.

In the case of the DJP, the key party positions have been assigned to the following individuals: Representative Member Pak Chun-kyu from Taegu City; Central Committee Chairman Yim Pang-hyon from North Cholla

Province; Secretary General Yi Chong-chan from Seoul City; Chief Policy Maker Yi Sung-yun from Kyonggi Province; and Floor Leader Kim Yun-hwan from North Kyongsang. The most striking characteristic of this is the TK's monopoly in party affairs.

Before the reorganization of the party's hierarchy, there was factional strife, which reportedly had the secondary effect of assigning assemblyman Yi Chong-chan to the post of the secretary general. Even so, as indicated by the sharp criticism within the party, it was only "a patchwork reorganization aimed at building a bridge between Yi and those currently in control" centered on the TK. It was aimed at "disarming Secretary General Yi, and in fact, it provided for a situation where the party affairs could be managed entirely by the TK connection acting in the framework of the Chongwadae.

As such, the fact that the heart of the party and the government has been seized by the so-called "TK Mafia" is obvious in that the key appointments are assistant to the president for policy Pak Chol-on, and Secretary for Economic Affairs Mun Hui-kap, both of whom are on the Chongwadae staff, and as DJP representative, Pak Chun-kyu, and as floor leader, Kim Yun-hwan.

It Could Bring an End to the Four Party Honeymoon

It is meaningless to try to pinpoint a TK connection in the party and the government. Rather, it is much easier to note the non-TK personnel in key posts of power.

Besides the many retired figures who still exercise influence, we can see the profile of the "mighty" TK Group among the figures who have come into power since the foundation of the Sixth Republic. In the Chongwadae office, Mr Mun Hui-kap and Mr Pak Chol-on make up a Kyongbuk High School trio along with the Secretary for Information Yi Su-chong, and this is reinforced by the DJP chief Han Yong-sok (from Wolsong). In the case of the administration, seven minister-level figures were selected, and recently, the following individuals were selected for deputy minister-level posts: Choe Yong-hwan, deputy minister of science and technology; Pak Yong-do, director of the Office of Industrial Promotion; and Kim Ha-kyong, director of the Office of Railroads. In the Sixth Republic's first personnel appointments for deputy minister-level posts in March 1988, the following individuals were selected: Yi Du-sop, deputy minister of health and social affairs; Yi Chin-ho, deputy minister of energy and resources; Pak Hong-sik, director of the Office of Patents; So Yong-taek, director of the Office of National Tax Administration; and Yu Chong-tak, deputy minister of agriculture and fisheries.

In the case of the Army, Chief of the General Staff Yi Chong-ku is particularly visible. Of the 53 individuals who were scheduled for promotion to brigadier general in 1989, 13 people (25 percent) were selected. From the Honam region, two individuals were selected from North Cholla Province and five from South Cholla

Province, which is an increase in numbers, but based on their commission terms and their military specialties, most of them will likely be placed on the reserve list as brigadier general. The number would increase vastly if we include all the figures in the economic circle. For example, there are Housing Corporation President Kwon Yong-ok; and Government Investment Agency Director Chong Su-chong, the former Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry director.

Particularly interesting about the recent reorganization is Pak Chol-on, assistant to the president for policy, who is known as a young ensign of the TK. With Mr Choe Pyong-yol reassigned as minister of culture and information from being first minister of state, it is generally expected that the power of the Chongwadae Office of the President will be concentrated under Assistant Pak.

As implied by the term "TK Mafia," the TK Group is known for its strong desire for power. At present its strength is known to be much greater than that of the late President Pak Chong-hui or that of the former President Chon Tu-hwan.

It is said that President No has not played a role as a strong central form, and this has resulted in creating multiple centers in the government circle, and enhanced the influence of academia in social issues.

In any case, the recent reorganization appears to change the present political alignment of the minority-government-and-majority-opposition situation to favor the DJP as it approaches the mid-term evaluation, which is scheduled for the spring of 1989. [passage omitted] The new appointments indicate President No's ideas concerning future government administration. The opposition parties, including the PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy], interpreted President No's decree marking "a vigorous image" as a signal that the political situation is becoming rigid, and they began to reinforce their political offensive. This seems to indicate that they have become aware of the government circle's intent to break through on all pending issues.

The newly formed administration faces a stiff challenge. There was a storm at the National Assembly during the process of the confirmation hearing for acting Premier Kang Yong-hun. And there are noises within and outside the party regarding the appointment of Representative Pak Chun-kyu. These situations enable us to predict difficult days ahead. The government will immediately attempt to work with one or two of the three Kims, namely Assemblymen Kim Tae-chung, Kim Yong-sam, and Kim Chong-pil; but it will not be easy. It is possible that the four-party honeymoon in the minority-government-and-majority-opposition situation, which has been going more or less smoothly thus far, could end in the spring of 1989.

Here, the external elements, such as the north's diplomacy and our relationship with North Korea, and the attitudes of financial circles and the middle class toward those issues add problems. In addition, we cannot help but pay attention to U.S. reaction which strongly influences all areas of our politics. If the government attempts to make a frontal attack, and if the opposition, particularly Mr Kim Tae-chung, engages in a go for broke countermeasure, it could present a difficult situation for the government as it tries to implement its long-term plans for governing.

Appearance of the "New Elders' Group"

Another subject of public interest, along with the line-up of the key members of the "TK Mafia," during the reshuffle of the party and the government is the "New Elders' Group," as it is popularly known. The key questions are: Does this group, which is still relatively unknown, actually exist? And if it does, what is its status within the government circle? Because most of the figures who are known to belong to this group originally came from North Korea, some speculate they represent a new regional power that could rival the TK Mafia, and some say that they have become one of President No's two big connections along with the TK force.

In general, the power of the government circle is structured in a five-point system, with the president at its center. It consists of the chairman of the National Assembly, the prime minister, the representative member of DJP, the director of national security planning, and the secretary general of the Office of the President. Of course, the scope of activities and the strength of power at each point could vary depending on the president's conception of government administration, his philosophy in using people, and the individual personalities involved, but it is clear that the government power is in the hands of those people.

In this regard, the present government circle presents an interesting theme. National Assembly Speaker Kim Chae-sun is from Pyongyang, South Pyongan Province; Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun is from Changsong, North Pyongan Province; DJP Representative Member Pak Chun-kyu is from Talsong, North Kyongsang Province; Agency for National Security Planning Director Pak Se-chik is from Chilkok, North Kyongsang Province; and Office of the President Secretary General Hong Song-chol is from Unryul, Hwanghae Province. This gives an appearance of a coalition of the "TK and the New Elders' Group from North Korea."

Besides Mr Kim Chae-sun (62), Mr Kang Yong-hun (62) and Mr Hong Song-chol (62), the following individuals belong to this group: Broadcasting Commission Chairman Kang Won-ryong (71, from Iwon, South Hamkyong Province), who was a prime minister-hopeful until the last minute of the recent cabinet reshuffle; KBS [Korean Broadcasting System] President So Yong-hun (65, from Tokchon, South Pyongan Province); former Deputy

Prime Minister Yi Han-pin (67, from Hamchu, South Hamkyong Province); former CHOSON ILBO editorial writer Yang Ho-min (69, from Pyongyang, South Pyongan Province); MBC [Munhwa Broadcasting Corp] Chairman Choe Sok-chae (71, from Kumrung, North Kyongsang Province); former Prime Minister Sin Hyon-ho (68, from Chilkok, North Kyongsang Province, who is also known as a godfather of the TK); and former Agriculture and Fisheries Minister Chang Tok-chin (54, from Chunchon, Kangwon Province), who is somewhat younger than the others. Some people count former Republican Party Secretary General Sin Tong-sik (62, from Kohung, South Cholla Province) and DJP Assemblyman Yi Pyong-yong (62, from Kimche, North Cholla Province), both of whom are from the Honam region, but it appears difficult to classify them in the same group because of the limited frequency of their contact. Even a prominent figure from a North Korean region said, "We don't have contacts with those two individuals."

It is questionable whether they are unified enough to be conceived of as a group. It is highly probable that "it is nothing more than an occasional meeting of friends to share their concerns about the nation." Moreover, they do not seem to welcome the term New Elders' Group, which was "coined by the mass media."

Could It Possibly Become a Real Power?

No matter what their personal intentions were, they began to draw public attention after the press reported on the Chongwadae meeting of late November which was held just before the cabinet reshuffle. A person who attended the meeting, which President No held to hear opinions about controlling the situation, complained, saying, "I thought this meeting was to seek opinions privately, so I was surprised to see TV cameras there. Isn't it true that the term New Elders' group was coined after this?"

There is no doubt that they are an organization engaged in a particular task. During the past presidential election, their role and ability were proven, and because President No treats them as veterans and sometimes seeks advice from them, they apparently are influential as an advisory body. And although they do not welcome the idea of being designated as a new connection, especially based on regional relations, it would be difficult to deny this fact.

Even so, there are many negative opinions as to whether they could either gain or become a real power. At present they occupy the upper level of the power structure in many areas, but it is difficult to call them a real power. This is because application of power cannot solely be decided based on the people involved, and because the center of TK power is in the personnel mentioned above.

One example is the background on the appearance of Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun. During the recent reshuffle the names of Mr Kang Won-ryong and former National Assembly Vice Chairman Ko Hung-mun (66, Seoul), from the opposition party, were mentioned as

prime minister-hopefuls up to the last minute, but Mr Kang Won-ryong faced strong resistance from other religious groups because of his identity as a pastor, and Mr Ko Hung-mun was reportedly excluded because little was known about him or his administrative ability. Mr Kang Yong-hun, who was neither particularly close to President No nor seriously mentioned as a candidate for prime minister, rose to the surface in this maelstrom. Because of this, Prime Minister Kang was rumored to have been "adopted" under the influence of the New Elders' Group. [passage omitted]

In our country closeness with the president, who holds the supreme power, frequently determines the strength of the power. In this regard, too, some say the scope of the New Elder's Group might not be as great as they think. First of all, they do not meet with the president very often. It is believed that they probably merely have had some opportunities to meet with President No because of his style of politics—making decisions after gathering broad opinions from many people. Of course, because they are friends of Secretary General Hong Song-chol, they are in a relatively advantageous position in that it would be easier to initiate a meeting with the president.

However, there were reportedly only two such meetings—summer 1988 and late November 1988—between the president and the group. Of course, some people occasionally met individually with the president. Mr Kang Won-ryong, Mr Sin Hyon-hwak, Mr Yi Han-pin, and Mr Choe Sok-chae have had private talks with the president once or twice, but these talks were not particularly significant.

In any case, the appearance of people originally from North Korea is gathering attention. The reasons are: they came south over the border with nearly empty hands before and after the Korean war, and since then their toughness became a subject of interest; they lost their leadership position by force from the Yongnam region at the end of the so-called "subjugation of the Alaskans" within the military, since the [military revolution] of 16 May; and after more than 20 years, interest in them has now resurfaced.

Conservative Participants in Promotion of Harmony Committee

The rise of the New Elders' Group can be seen in their inclinations toward, and their relations with, President No. First of all, they are strongly anticommunist and conservative. These people, who moved south because they hated the communism, are extremely concerned about the existence of a force that is against the establishment. They would align themselves with any positive measures against any antiestablishment forces. Their view on the situation can be seen in the first lines of Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun's inaugural speech, "Restoration of law and order is the first condition for the nation's existence and prosperity, and this is even more important during the transition period."

However, their all-out effort was not simply because of their conservative inclination. The fact that they made a significant contribution to the then-candidate No Tae-u's winning of the presidential election in December 1987 is also known as an important reason. They judged the situation at that time as critical, with the system itself in danger, and set as their first objective guarding the establishment, and because of this they chose to support then-candidate No among the four candidates. In this process, they reportedly had contacts with TK personnel, such as Mr Sin Hyon-hwak and Mr Pak Chun-kyu.

In particular, they are known to have played a decisive role in gathering the votes of people who had fled from North Korea. A concerned authority in Chongwadae says, "Some people say that Mr Hong Song-chol was appointed secretary general because he lets President No lead a very comfortable life; but a more correct judgment is that his appointment is an official recognition of distinguished services in the presidential election. At that time, candidate No received more votes from the Kyonggi and Kangwon regions north of Seoul, where there are many people who left North Korea, then from anywhere except Taegu City and North Kyongsang Province which are his strongholds.

Their existence became visible after the foundation of the Democratic Harmony Promotion Committee (DHPC) in early 1988. The DHPC, which was formed at that time by President-elect No's public pledge, operated with an intent to put to rest the problems of the Fifth Republic before the new president's inauguration. The following individuals participated in this process: Mr Kang Yong-hun, Mr Kim Chae-sun, Mr So Yong-hun, Mr Yi Han-pin, Mr Hong Song-chol, and Mr Pak Chun-kyu. Since that time, more attention has been paid to these individuals.

Especially, their names rise to the surface whenever there is a personnel change involving high-ranking posts in the party and government.

New Elders' Group: A Shield for TK?

There are many political interpretations regarding the rise of the New Elders' Group. First of all, there is the view from President No's position. Because they occupy senior positions in various circles and because they have not previously appeared in the frontline of politics, they are relatively "clean," and therefore do not appear so unpleasant to the eyes of the general public. Thus, some maintain that President No, has no choice but to appoint them. In addition, once they have taken positions around the president, he will be highly praised.

And the President should consult with these senior-level figures before other officials, except for those within the TK circle who occupy the center of the power.

Moreover, another significant reason is that these elders are said to make the people comfortable. It is said that former President Chon met frequently with financial magnates whereas President No likes to meet with elders.

There are also negative reactions about the rise of the New Elders' Group. This is one result of their relation with the TK Mafia's strategy for government administration. These elders have a strong desire to protect the establishment, one which exactly matches the TK Mafia's. In other words, it is said that the appearance of the New Elders' Group is nothing but a smoke-screen tactic by the TK circle, which became aware of the "anti-TK sentiment" arising from the general election of 26 April, and that the group is exactly the TK Mafia itself, in a colorless, odorless uniform called the New Elders' Group. The appearance of the New Elders' Group does not mean a broadening of the base of the ruling bloc.

The general election of 26 April became the center of attention for the local chapters of parties all over the country, and this presented a possibility of combining anti-TK forces. As a countermeasure, it is said, the TK made the North Korean force, which could hardly attempt a challenge for power, stand in the frontline, thus allowing the TK to avoid the brunt of an attack from the anti-TK force. [passage omitted]

There are also criticisms of the so-called "politics by seniors." There is some reason to doubt that President No and his close associates understand the present situation. In other words, since President No was elected directly by the people and he is relatively popular, they have become overconfident and are taking the easy road. The present situation is not so comfortable that it can depend on a slogan of protecting the establishment. At a time of almost revolutionary transition, a line-up of people from the past or the old generation might have a ceremonial effect, but it is not a big help to the present government or establishment. Moreover, it is pointed out that the elders that the government recognizes and those that the people recognize may not be the same. It is also recognized that since most of them are short of experience in government administration, it would be difficult for them to lead the present society that is specialized and technologically oriented.

What President No needs right now is firm support, but the New Elders' Group is unable to provide this. This is because employing a person means selecting not only the person himself but also the force behind him. The group might be able to move toward certain directions, but is short of energy and a support base.

In any case, President No's dependence on senior politicians is expected to continue for a while. This is because it is difficult for the government and the government party to embrace the new generation at this time, and because it is difficult for the new generation within the government party to produce a leader immediately.

Even so, this situation is not expected to last very long. It is believed that if new and better qualified ambitious figures, working closely with President No, attempt to rise to the surface, the elders will inevitably have to withdraw.

In relation to the process of implementing long-term plans, such as the unification of conservatives and the constitutional revision for a cabinet system, which are reportedly being worked out by the government circle, there is the possibility of new people rising to the surface sometime in 1990 which is 2 years before the next presidential election.

The New Elders' Group: Who Are They?

At present the central figure in the New Elders' Group is known to be Office of the President Secretary General Hong Chong-chol. It is said that since he is close to the center of power, he naturally occupies the group's central position. Of course, it does not mean that he is the leader of the group. Originally, former National Assembly Chairman Chong Il-kwon (71, Kyongwon, North Hamkyong Province) acted as representative for the group from North Korea, but Mr Hong has reportedly been playing this role since he became the secretary general of the Office of the President.

Secretary General Hong graduated from Kyonggi High School and the School of Commerce of the Seoul National University, served in the Marine Corps, went into the first reserve as a colonel in 1962, and served as an official at the Korean Embassy in the United States. Since then he has served as Secretary General for former Prime Minister Chong Il-kwon, as senior presidential secretary for political affairs, and as minister of home affairs and minister of health and social affairs during the Yusin System [Revitalizing Reform] period. It is said that he first met President No in 1982 when he was chairman of the Committee for the People of Hwanghae Province and President No was serving as minister of home affairs. It is often said, "Secretary General Hong keeps his own counsel," he is noted for his silent approach.

As expected, the godfather of the New Elders' Group is still Mr Kang Won-ryong, Broadcasting Commission chairman. Rather than his present occupational title, he is better known as Pastor Kang Won-ryong, and has worked for the Christian Academy Movement and is a senior in religious circles. He once represented a section of the democratization movement but became a member of the Government Affairs Advisory Board in 1980. He is known as a person with whom President No frequently consults.

National Assembly Chairman Kim Chae-sun, along with DJP Representative Pak Chun-kyu, is from the old Republican Party. He reportedly began to meet frequently with President No after writing an article opposing the 13 April 1987 measure.

Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun is a spirited military person. It is said that his ability is questionable because he is inexperienced in government administration and his life in public service has been limited to diplomacy. But it is expected that he will be more than a "prime minister who only reads for the president."

Mr So Yong-hun, KBS president, spent his entire career working in social service organizations, such as Hungsadan and the Korean Red Cross, and has never stepped into officialdom. He reportedly has been very friendly with Mr Kang Won-ryong and Mr Kim Chae-sun. It is said that his appointment as KBS president was due to a strong recommendation from Mr Kang Won-ryong. His participation in the DHPC was his first entry into politics.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Yi Han-pin served in key positions at the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Planning Board, and is an academic who served as President of Achu University and Sungchon University. At present he is serving as International Conference for Public Economy first chairman and is partially responsible for the north policy which is one of the key policies of the No Tae-u administration.

Mr Yang Ho-min, who was a CHOSON ILBO editorial writer and has written for SASANGGYE, served as professor at Seoul National University Law School, but was forced to step down after he was classified as a so-called "political professor." Since then, he has worked in the media.

Mr Choe Sok-chae, MBC chairman, is also from the news media. He has worked as chief editor of TAEGU MAEIL SINMUN and CHOSON ILBO, and chairman of Munhwa Broadcasting Company and KYONGHYANG SINMUN. He is reportedly one of the few ethical seniors in the press.

Mr Sin Hyon-hwak, who has recently appeared as a witness in the Kwangju hearing, served as prime minister in 1980. He has had a glittering career, serving as minister of reconstruction, minister of health and social affairs, deputy prime minister, National Assemblyman, and industrialist. He is presently chairman of Samsung Mulsan.

Mr Chang Tok-chin, a former minister of agriculture and fisheries, is well known in bureaucratic and political circles. He has already become known as an elder statesman so it is no surprise that he is a member of the New Elders Group.

Burma

Army Chief of Staff Receives Thai Delegation

BK1703152589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] The army chief of staff, Lieutenant General Than Shwe, received the visiting Thai delegation led by Colonel (Wisan Chanarat) at Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense at 0930 today. Present at the meeting were the secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Brigadier General Khin Nyunt; the secretary-2, Brigadier General Tin U; and the director general of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Ohn Kyaw.

Information Officers Hold 31st News Conference

BK1703151589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Excerpts] Members of the information committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] held the 31st news conference with correspondents from local and foreign press agencies in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense at 1300 today. [passage omitted]

Information committee members explained violation of law in the state, an additional report on Thanmani Bo Khin Maung, and the resolution of the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

Explaining the matter of violation of law, information officers said some students and youths are currently using the term UD [underground] loosely among them and noted the term is understood internationally as illegal, and that it is associated with insurgent activities and their clandestine work. [passage omitted] However, the students and youths appear to be very proud to utter the word UD without realizing its implications. [passage omitted]

They said underground activities come under the category of secret documents and treason against the state. [passage omitted] It is noted that Section 6 of the Penal Code of the Union of Burma contains penalties for crimes committed against the Government of the Union of Burma, which include death or life imprisonment. The matter on UD is being explained so as to enable those who are not aware of the implications of the term. [passage omitted]

With regard to demands for lifting of SLORC Order No 2/88 [ban on gathering and imposition of curfew], we have shown much tolerance and the order does not contain matters that could not be followed. The limitations contained in the order would be reduced as the situation becomes stable. We would just like to say: Do not violate Order No 2/88.

Another matter related to law is that there have been reports that the government has been unfairly forcing public servants to sign papers and imposing restrictions. There have been many instigations on the matter. We are just enforcing the Official Secret Act of 1923, which has

been enforced in every office. It was not just issued recently; it was enacted in 1923 and had been followed by successive governments. [passage omitted]

Presenting additional reports received on Thanmani Bo Khin Maung, information committee members said that the All India Radio, which has been regularly broadcasting and propagating opposition and insurgent organizations, at 1745 [1115 GMT] on 11 March reported on the formation of the Alliance for Democratic Solidarity, Union of Burma, ADS, led by Thanmani Bo Khin Maung. [passage omitted contained in two referent items]

We have received reports on contact between the ADS and insurgent organizations such as the Mon insurgents. There are also reports of contact between some above-ground political parties and underground organizations such as ADS. Action will be taken according to law when there is concrete evidence. [passage omitted]

Next, explaining the United Nations Human Rights Commission resolution on Burma, it was said that the meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Commission was held in Geneva from 30 January to 10 March. [passage omitted] At the meeting, a group of West European countries planned to submit a draft resolution condemning violation of human rights in Burma. U Aung Thant, head of Burmese representation at the United Nations, coordinated with a group of Asian countries and explained the true events in Burma. [passage omitted] As a result, the chairman's decision was passed instead of the draft resolution. [passage omitted]

Despite this, it is regrettable that a U.S. senator pointing at the UN resolution called on Asian countries to suspend aid to Burma until the Burmese authorities complete their pledges.

In answering questions from the correspondents, the committee said that 2,635 students had returned as of today. [passage omitted] They also said they do not confirm reports broadcast by the All India Radio, BBC, and VOA, but were just presenting the news that had been broadcast. The news conference ended at 1400.

Commission Informs Parties To Update Addresses

BK1703090289 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 16 Mar 89

[Letter from the Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic Elections to political parties regarding placing of signboards of parties at respective headquarters offices and updating of addresses of party headquarters—date not given]

[Text] 1. The commission has allowed a total of 233 political parties to register as of 28 February 1989 in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law.

2. The commission has experienced some difficulties in communicating with political parties in carrying out work for the election and in responding to matters

presented by political parties as some headquarters of political parties have moved and some headquarters do not have signboards displaying the names of their respective political parties.

3. Therefore, political parties are requested to display their headquarters signboards at their headquarters, to assign an officer during office hours, and to inform the commission of the new address if there has been a change of address of the headquarters.

Programs of Free Democracy League Announced
BK1203085589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 11 Mar 89

["Press Release No 87/89 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 11 March 1989—the 5th day of the waxing moon of Tabaung, 1350 Burmese Era"]

[Text] 1. The following are the extracts of the aims and programs of the Anticommunist, Antisocialist, Antitotalitarian Free Democracy League, which has registered with this Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has its headquarters at No 109-B, Campbell Road, Bahan Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Aims

A. For our league to draft and implement a new system that will raise the standard of the nation, develop the economy, and return fundamental rights to the people.

B. Through a new system to be developed by us, we shall always oppose and prevent the emergence of communism, socialism, and any form of dictatorship which imposes restrictions through materialism on the right of the people to be masters of their own destiny.

C. To strive to heighten the people's political and economic knowledge and sense of responsibility, conscience, and morals.

D. To strive to realize the aspirations of the people, and to pave the way for conditions under which individual ability and qualifications can be best utilized.

E. To give priority to the unity and solidarity of the democratic forces and to seek ways for a peaceful, political environment.

3. Programs

A. To completely oppose communism and socialism, which only serve a certain class, and to practice a multiparty democratic parliamentary system that serves the interests of all the people.

B. To introduce a compulsory national service under which all people, aged 18 and above, with the exception of those excused for health, mental, and social reasons, undergo military training for the sake of strengthening the sovereignty of the state.

C. To establish a genuinely independent Union with the people of all nationalities.

D. For the state to make public all political, economic, financial, and foreign affairs matters with the exception of top military and government secrets.

'Coup' Occurs in Communist Northern Command
BK1903121089 London BBC in Burmese to Burma
1400 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] [Passage indistinct] the Burma Communist Party is the strongest among the insurgent groups fighting the Burmese Government. The latest news, if true, is significant because it would mean that some form of a coup took place in the Northern Command of the Burma Communist Party. However, since rumors have been rife about power seizures for some time now, only time will tell whether it was a successful transfer of power as claimed. Here is a summary of a report from Bertil Lintner:

According to reports reaching Bangkok, it is learned that a division has emerged among the nationality groups within the Burma Communist Party—the BCP, and that the Kokang National Chinese, the Wa, the Shan, and the Arakan groups have broken away from the party, abandoning Marxism-Leninism and forming the Burmese National Democratic Front.

On 12 March, Kokang Chinese military units headed by (Ko Ja Shin) made their first challenge of the mostly Burmese Marxist-Leninist leadership in the BCP. On 14 March, these units (?with the support of) military units belonging to the other nationalities, seized the BCP's Northern Command Headquarters in Mong Ko near the Chinese border. The insurgent splinter group also arrested a large number of party cadres in Mong Ko.

Today, the new, breakaway, noncommunist group has announced that it supports the insurgent forces belonging to the other nationality groups in Burma as well as the members of the pro-democracy students movement.

As the news from the region is very sketchy, the true strength of the new insurgent grouping is not yet known. However, according to military observers, it is estimated that the grouping would have almost about 9 percent of the overall BCP strength of 12,000-14,000 men. Members of the BCP units are made up of Shan ethnic minorities and people from Kachin State.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Air Defense Council Session in Kuching Viewed
BK1603090089 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0507 GMT 16 Mar 89

[Text] Kuching, (East Malaysia), March 16 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia Thursday [16 March], hosted the 69th Air Defence Council (ADC) meeting and an extraordinary meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee of the Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA) here.

Malaysian Ministry of Defence Secretary-General Nasruddin Bahari, who led the Malaysian delegation, chaired the one-day meeting which discussed, among other things, air defence training and exercises among the member countries—Australia, Britain, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Singapore.

British High Commissioner to Malaysia J.N.T. Spreckley led the British delegation, while his New Zealand and Australian counterparts, M.K.L. Jeremyn and Cavan Hogue, respectively, headed their countries' delegations. The Singapore delegation was headed by Ministry of Defence Permanent Secretary Lim Siong Guan.

The ADC meeting is a quarterly meeting hosted by two member countries during the year. Malaysia will also host the next meeting scheduled for June.

The ADC is the policy-making body of the FPDA, formed in 1971, and is also responsible for policy matters relating to the Integrated Air Defence System (IADS).

Indonesia, Singapore Ties With PRC Hailed
BK1403114589 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 14 Mar 89

[John Doraisamy commentary]

[Text] An important development in ASEAN's external relations will take place probably within 1 year when Indonesia and Singapore enter into formal diplomatic relations with the PRC. The decision to have diplomatic links is for every country a policy matter and is based on its own assessment of all political and economic factors.

Over the last 5 or 6 years, the Chinese Government has embarked on a new economic policy. Generally speaking, this new modernization program has been inevitably accompanied by a more outward-looking and pragmatic approach, comparable in most respects to the Soviet perestroika attitude. This is certainly for all ASEAN countries a more reassuring posture, compared to the former arrogance and self-righteous attitude under the late Chairman Mao. ASEAN, as a vital regional association, follows a dynamic outreach policy.

ASEAN member countries recognize the reality of China's fast-changing internal and external policies. In the case of Indonesia, the old ties with China [word indistinct] after the internal coup of 1965, which was communist-inspired. It was alleged that the Chinese Embassy in Jakarta was implicated in subversive activities. That was more than 23 years ago. Both in Indonesia and China and in the Asian region itself, major changes have occurred. The world welcomed the report that President Suharto had met and held talks with the Chinese foreign minister when both men were in Tokyo last month for Emperor Hirohito's funeral.

The signals are unmistakable that Singapore and Indonesia regard early opening of diplomatic ties as vital. ASEAN is rapidly emerging as a significant bloc in

international relations. Diplomatic ties with China will enable a more speedy evolution someday of an ASEAN common external policy, as is already the case with the European Community.

The 1990's will see the Pacific Basin becoming an even more dynamic region with greater [word indistinct] sophisticated goods and services of all kinds. ASEAN needs to be able to bargain collectively from a position of strength. Greater uniformity in its diplomatic outlook will be a source of strength.

The opening of links with Beijing need not in any way affect the existing trade and commercial links that all ASEAN member countries have with Taiwan. Recent reports indicate that Taiwan may soon revise its present insistence on recognition as the Republic of China. In the economic sphere, the whole world recognizes Taiwan as among the fastest-growing industrial nations. It is probable that we will soon be witnessing a new phase in Taiwan's external relations.

Malaysia has always welcomed any development that will be conducive to more trade, economic links, and mutual appreciation of cultures. It will therefore regard as most welcome the establishment of formal diplomatic links with China by two fellow ASEAN countries, namely Indonesia and Singapore.

Portuguese Foreign Minister Begins Visit
BK1003151589 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 10 Mar 89

[Text] Portuguese Foreign Minister Joao de Deus Pinheiro arrived in Kuala Lumpur today for a 4-day official visit to Malaysia. The Portuguese foreign minister and his 10-man entourage were welcomed by his Malaysian counterpart, Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Feted by Counterpart
BK1103101889 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0931 GMT 11 Mar 89

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, March 11 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia is watching closely developments within the European Community (EC) towards the creation of a single internal market in 1992, visiting Portuguese Foreign Minister Prof Joao de Deus Pinheiro was told here Saturday [11 March].

We believe that the onus lies essentially with the EC, of which Portugal is a member, to assure its trading partners as well as ensure that efforts towards greater regional integration and multilateralism are not incompatible, Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said in his speech at a luncheon he gave to his counterpart at a hotel here.

Malaysia, he said, hoped that the attainment of the single internal market will not only make the EC more effective with an attractive market of 320 million people, but will also contribute towards a more liberalised global trading environment.

Prof de Deus arrived Friday for a three-day official visit at the invitation of Abu Hassan. The visit, the first by a Portuguese foreign minister to Malaysia, is part of his tour to countries in the region, including Thailand and Singapore.

Abu Hassan also called for cooperation between Malaysia and Portugal to be enhanced to give substance to their relations at the international level.

Speaking at a press conference after the luncheon, he said he was told by Prof de Deus during their discussion at the Foreign Ministry this morning, that the Portuguese Government is considering having a consul-general here. Currently, the Portuguese ambassador to Thailand is accredited to Malaysia.

Comments on Refugee Issue

BK1103153689 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service
in Malay 1430 GMT 11 Mar 89

[Text] Portugal may accept more Vietnamese refugees for resettlement in that country. However, the decision to accept the refugees depends on the outcome of the International Conference on Indochinese Refugees, scheduled for June in Geneva.

This was disclosed by the visiting Portuguese foreign minister at a news conference in Kuala Lumpur today. He said the EC, of which Portugal is a member, has reached an agreement in helping solve the 14-year-old refugee problem. The Geneva conference is expected to adopt a comprehensive draft resolution, which among other things calls on more countries to help resettle the refugees.

The Portuguese minister said his country had accepted about 2,000 Vietnamese refugees in 1982, the majority of whom resettled in Macao.

Singapore

2,000 'Illegal' Thais Said To Flood Embassy
BK2003103589 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Mar 89 Afternoon Edition p 1

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon in Singapore]

[Excerpts] About 2,000 illegal Thai workers flocked to the Thai Embassy's Labour Attache Office in Singapore this morning to seek a safe passage home as the March 31 deadline for penalties under a tough new immigration law draws near, a senior embassy official said.

"The number could reach seven to eight thousand in two days, I am afraid," said Rachen Nithiprapha as word of mouth and leaflets put out by the embassy have encouraged illegal Thai workers in this island republic to report to the embassy before the deadline for a safe homecoming guarantee.

As of yesterday, 3,500-3,700 Thais had reported to the Labour Attache office in Cecil Street. Many of them do not have passports and most are without work permits.

Rachen appealed for more personnel assistance from Bangkok to speed up the repatriation process. "Currently, we have only about seven or eight officials doing the work for more than 3,000 people," he added.

Five officials from the Foreign Ministry and Labour Department are expected to fly from Bangkok to Singapore later this afternoon to speed up the the processing of travel documents.

About 200 Thais are scheduled to leave Singapore for Hat Yai district of southern Songkhla province today in a convoy of eight buses. Rachen said more Thai labourers could be sent home if the Singapore immigration office also increase their manpower.

"I sympathize with them (Singaporean immigration officials) as well. They have tried their best. But only 200-300 Thais have been processed so far," the labour attache said.

According to the procedures, all illegal workers, after reporting to the embassy, will be interviewed by Singaporean immigration officials before being sent home in buses. [passage omitted]

Thai officials have expressed serious concern that the number of illegal workers could reach 10,000 by the end of this month.

The officials said Thai workers in Singapore each year remit more than Bt [baht] 1,000 billion through the Bangkok Bank Ltd.

Thai labour force in the island republic comprises mostly of construction workers and a number of them work at housing projects and the construction site at Changi airport.

Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs Visits

Arrives, Attends Dinner

BK1303143489 Singapore Domestic Service
in English 1400 GMT 13 Mar 89

[Text] The Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Joao de Deus Pinheiro, has arrived in Singapore for a 3-day visit. Dr Pinheiro called on his Singapore counterpart, Mr Wong Kan Seng, who is also the minister for community development, earlier this evening.

The Portuguese minister, who was accompanied by his wife, also attended a dinner, hosted by Mr and Mrs Wong. Tomorrow, Dr Pinheiro will call on the trade and industry minister and second minister for defense (services), Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Receives UN Secretary General's Envoy
BK1703123589 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1109 GMT 17 Mar 89

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK, March 17—Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK], received in Phnom Penh yesterday Ahmed Rafudin, under secretary of the United Nations and special envoy of UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who had come here to sound out the possibilities for a political solution to the Kampuchean conflict.

Speaking to his guest, Chairman Hun Sen expressed his warm welcome to the noble mission of the UN under secretary whom he has met six times in the period of nine months since 1988 for the settlement of the Kampuchean issue.

After hearing Ahmed Rafudin's report on the results of his mission in some regional countries and his assessment of JIM-2's [second Jakarta informal meeting's] outcome, the Kampuchean leader explained clearly the P.R.K.'s stance and the possibilities for a political solution to the Kampuchean problem. He said that on this question a timetable for the total pullout of Vietnamese volunteer troops had been already fixed by the P.R.K. side. Chairman Hun Sen said what is to do now is to put an end to outside interference in the Kampuchean people's internal affairs and prevent the return of the genocidal Pol Pot clique.

Chairman Hun Sen said: "It is regrettable that some countries which have claimed their opposition to the recurrence of the Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea have not yet taken any action against the genocidal clique and have even given green-light to their return to power by forcing the P.R.K. to accept the unilateral withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea".

"However," he said, "the P.R.K. can stand on its own feet in the case of unilateral Vietnamese troop pull-out, even that will be done ahead of the deadline. These countries are seeking to oppose the Kampuchean people under the pretext of opposing the presence of Vietnamese troops. But after the troop withdrawal, they will have no reason to oppose us. If they still continue supporting the Khmer opposition factions against the Kampuchean people, they will be held responsible for the tragedy in Kampuchea."

Chairman Hun Sen expressed his disapproval of Sihanouk's erroneous decision on the setting up of the so-called "Superior Council for National Defense" which, he said, is aimed at facilitating the Pol Pot forces to return to power in Kampuchea and murder the Kampuchean people once again.

He pointed out that Sihanouk's close association with the Pol Potists will only prolong the suffering of the Kampuchean people and this move would arouse the

Kampuchean people's anti-Sihanouk feeling. "Now, Prince Sihanouk has not much time. Therefore he should timely make decision to take the path of honour for himself," Hun Sen noted.

In reply, A. Rafudin thanked Chairman Hun Sen for the clear interpretation of the P.R.K.'s stance and said he would do all in his capacity to cooperate with all parties concerned in order to accelerate the search for the settlement of the Kampuchean issue.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of cordiality, frankness and mutual understanding.

Sihanouk Clarifies Role on Unified Command
BK1903040389 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] Beijing—Prince Norodom Sihanouk on Friday clarified his role as leader of all Kampuchean resistance forces, saying he held no sway over Khmer Rouge and nationalist guerrillas.

Prince Sihanouk had said on Tuesday that all Kampuchean resistance fighters were "now all under my command" after the establishment by all three resistance factions of a Superior Council for National Defence.

But in a statement on Friday, he said the council was not a "high command," nor was he its supreme commander.

"The Khmer Rouge forces are not under my command, nor are those of (former nationalist premier) Son Sann," he said.

The council, he said, was designed for "coordination and mutual aid" to improve the ability of Khmer Rouge, nationalist and Prince Sihanouk's own guerrillas to fight Vietnamese forces inside Kampuchea, he said.

It would also ensure that no clashes occur between resistance factions, said Prince Sihanouk, who has previously accused the Khmer Rouge of attacking his own fighters.

"If, after the departure of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, the Khmer Rouge and its leaders tried to take power for themselves...my army will fight the Khmer Rouge until the end," he said.

"There is no question, and there will be no question, of letting Pol Pot return to power," he said.

Li Peng Supports CGDK Strengthened Unity
BK2003015689 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Mar 89

[Text] On 16 March, Chinese Premier Li Peng held talks with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea; Son Sann, prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea; and Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, who were at a special meeting of the three Cambodian resistance forces in Beijing.

Li Peng said the fact that the three leaders of the Cambodian resistance forces met in Beijing under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to discuss the struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors was of great significance. We are very pleased with the strengthened unity of the Cambodian resistance forces. This demonstrates that the Cambodian people's struggle is entering a new stage.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said the three partners of the Cambodian resistance have reinforced their unity in the military, political, and diplomatic struggle on the basis of the five-point peace proposal and its relevant modalities. He pointed out that after the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the four-party Cambodian government of national unity should be established. No one can monopolize the power. The four parties should jointly lead the government.

Li Peng said Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's initiative in creating such a government was praiseworthy. The idea will gain support from the Cambodian people and in the international arena.

China, Thailand 'Demand' SRV Troop Withdrawal
BK1903025089 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] On 16 March, Zhao Ziyang, general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, held talks with Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, who is visiting China.

The two personalities discussed the Cambodian problem and bilateral issues. Zhao Ziyang said the time for solving the Cambodian problem politically is drawing near; however, difficulties hindering a solution to this problem still remain. He noted that earlier, Vietnam had promised to pull out its troops from Cambodia in September 1989. However, recently Vietnam went back on its word and imposed a number of conditions. Zhao Ziyang further said that Vietnam opposes the setting up of a provisional four-party government led by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. This shows that Vietnam is still trying to set up a government based on the puppet regime of Heng Samrin and Hun Sen. This also shows that Vietnam continues to attain what it has failed to get on the military battlefield. Therefore, the international community should maintain its pressure on Vietnam to force a change in policy.

General Secretary Zhao Ziyang also said that China and Thailand have always provided mutual support on the Cambodian problem. The two countries should continue to join hands in pushing for a quick political settlement to the Cambodian problem.

Chatchai Chunhawan agreed that Thailand and China share identical views on the Cambodian problem. The two countries demand that Vietnam withdraw its aggressor troops from Cambodia. Now the world is pressuring Vietnam to pull out from Cambodia. Vietnam should

respect its words and withdraw its troops in September 1989. The two personalities also praised the friendly relations and economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Son Sann Arrives in Bangkok From China
BK1803091289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and prime minister of the Cambodian Coalition Government, arrived in Bangkok, Thailand, at 1930 yesterday following a week-long visit to China where he met Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia, and head of the Cambodian Coalition Government; Mr. Khieu Samphan, head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea; and General Chatchai Chunhawan, Thai prime minister.

During his stay in China, His Excellency Son Sann told newsmen that there are three ways for Mr. Hun Sen to choose. The first one is that Mr. Hun Sen can follow Vietnam when it withdraws; the second, Hun Sen can stay on in Cambodia to oppose the resistance groups and get a notorious name in the Cambodian annals; and third, Hun Sen may reach a national reconciliation with the four Cambodian resistance groups [as heard] and jointly organize the elections.

His Excellency Son Sann said however that the first two ways are no good for Mr. Hun Sen.

No report is available on how many days His Excellency Son Sann will be in Bangkok. But it is expected that he will soon visit the Cambodian people loyal to the KPNLF.

Khieu Samphan Grants Interview to Yugoslav TV
BK1603052089 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Mar 89

[Report on 8 March interview given by Khieu Samphan, Democratic Kampuchean vice president in charge of foreign affairs, to (Laszlo Pet), editor in chief of Yugoslavia's Novi Sad Television; recorded in French fading into Cambodian translation—place not given]

[Text] [Question] My respects to you, Mr president. What is your opinion regarding the outcome of the second informal meeting in Jakarta?

[Answer] In Jakarta, the world became even better aware that Vietnam does not want to settle the Cambodian problem through political means. The world has called on Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia under international supervision, but Vietnam has sought every means to avoid such supervision. Vietnam has announced a unilateral troop withdrawal in an attempt to avoid being responsible for the Cambodian problem. It has even announced that it will withdraw all its troops from Cambodia in September 1989 if a solution to the

Cambodian problem is reached among the four Cambodian parties. This is tantamount to setting a condition to avoid withdrawing its troops from Cambodia.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian nation, leader of the Cambodian resistance movement, and president of Democratic Kampuchea, has already exposed this condition. The whole world is well aware that Vietnam's puppets are no different from Vietnam itself. Therefore, with such a condition—that Vietnam will withdraw only after a settlement is reached with the Vietnamese puppets—no settlement can ever be reached, even after the Sri Araya [the next Buddha who will turn the world into a Utopia] is enlightened.

[Question] I went to Hanoi and spoke with a number of Vietnamese leaders. They told me that they are ready to settle the Cambodian problem through political means, but only after the danger of the Khmer Rouge returning to power is eliminated. They said that this is a basic problem which must be resolved in the search for a permanent settlement of the Cambodian problem. What is your opinion?

[Answer] Vietnam has repeatedly talked about the so-called danger of the Khmer Rouge returning to power, but this is only a pretext to avoid settling the Cambodian problem.

In Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan, there is a proposal for a United Nations international peacekeeping force to be present not only to supervise the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops but also to prevent the Democratic Kampuchean party called the Khmer Rouge from monopolizing power. In the modalities for the implementation of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan, it has been mentioned that an International Control Commission which has sufficient manpower and sufficient measures must be stationed in a number of important strategic points—which have already been clearly pinpointed—in Cambodia. Later, after all the Vietnamese troops are withdrawn from Cambodia, the international peacekeeping force must be stationed in Cambodia in order to ensure the balance of forces among all Cambodian parties, guarantee stability in Cambodia, and prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power. If Vietnam is really worried about the so-called Khmer Rouge returning to power, why has it not accepted international supervision? Why has it not accepted the presence of the UN international peacekeeping force? If Vietnam wants to add or alter anything to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan and the modalities for the implementation of this five-point peace plan, why has it not done so? Why has Vietnam rejected this five-point peace plan without any consideration?

[Question] What is your opinion regarding President George Bush's recent statement in Beijing in which he stated that the settlement of the Cambodian problem must be by means of:

1. Total Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia;
2. Formation of a coalition government under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk;
3. Restriction of the Khmer Rouge's role in this government?

[Answer] In our opinion, this is a correct stance that will help in the quick settlement of the Cambodian problem.

[Question] What is your opinion regarding the third point in President George Bush's statement?

[Answer] We have no objection. This is because we do not intend to monopolize power by ourselves. We want national reconciliation. We want a quadripartite coalition government to be formed under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. We are well aware of the fact that national reconciliation is impossible within the framework of the Democratic Kampuchean state. However, national reconciliation within the framework of the regime installed in Phnom Penh by foreigners is also impossible. All Cambodian national forces must accept the principle of national reconciliation and recognize that only Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is capable of rallying all national forces within the framework of genuine national reconciliation.

[Question] What is the relationship among the various parties in the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDKJ]?

[Answer] Our relationship is better than ever before.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Because each of us has become more aware than ever before that despite serious difficulties facing it in Cambodia and at home, Vietnam will not let Cambodia go. Therefore, all of us must continue to jointly struggle both on the battlefield and in the international arena in order to continue drawing world support.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan and the modalities for the implementation of this five-point peace plan are a firm basis for all of us to unite effectively not only at the present time but also in the future after the Vietnamese withdrawal. The prospects for national union based on Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's five-point peace plan are brighter than at any other time.

[Question] What is the situation on the battlefield?

[Answer] On the battlefield, although we have not yet been able to smash the Vietnamese forces on a massive scale, we have been able to wear down the manpower of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, causing them heavy losses every day. We have launched anti-Vietnam activities throughout the country. The world might have noticed that since 1985, Vietnam has been unable to launch any large-scale operations because it has been

compelled to scatter its forces to resist our attacks everywhere and to defend the puppet administration in villages and communes. The Vietnamese have to protect the puppet administration in the villages and commune because the village and commune administration has an important role in implementing Vietnam's strategy of using war to feed war and of feeding the war on the spot. By repeatedly dismantling the Vietnamese puppet administration in villages and communes, we have been able to attack Vietnam's weak point and shrink its sources of manpower and food supply, thus preventing it from implementing this principle, that is, from feeding its war on the spot. Therefore, the longer Vietnam prolongs its war of aggression in Cambodia, the deeper it will become bogged down. This war of aggression in Cambodia has added further heavy burdens to Vietnam's domestic economy, which is going bankrupt.

[Question] There has been much talk about the problem of the Vietnamization of Cambodia. How has this problem developed?

[Answer] This is a serious problem. Vietnam is continuing to implement its Vietnamization policy in Cambodia by:

1. Continuing to send Vietnamese nationals to settle in Cambodia. The number of these Vietnamese nationals has risen to more than a million. Some villages and districts are entirely occupied by Vietnamese nationals. For example, Svay Rieng Province's Samraong, Kumduol, and Kompong Rou Districts are full of Vietnamese nationals, as are Prey Veng Province's Peam Ro and Peam Chor Districts. The majority of the population of Kompong Trabek District is Vietnamese. Kaoh Andet and Angkor Borei Districts in Takeo Province are also overwhelmed with Vietnamese nationals. This does not include the areas along the banks of the Mekong River, the Basak River, and the Tonle Sap Lake.

I must stress that all these Vietnamese nationals are organized into [words indistinct], groups, and sections, and are armed to acts as reinforcements for the Vietnamese aggressor troops. Moreover, the Hanoi leaders are organizing systematic courses for Vietnamese soldiers to learn the Cambodian language. In Phnom Penh, there is a special school, called Bak Tuk School, for Vietnamese soldiers to learn Cambodian. After graduation, these Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodian soldiers' uniforms are introduced into the Cambodian puppet army as Cambodian soldiers.

To the world, Vietnam has announced that it has unilaterally withdrawn its troops on many occasions, but on the spot it has ordered Vietnamese soldiers to masquerade as Cambodian soldiers in order to maintain the puppet regime and occupy Cambodia forever.

This is a serious problem which has been repeatedly denounced by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as well as the Cambodian resistance forces. This is why Vietnam has stubbornly refused to accept international supervision.

[Question] Do you expect anything from the Sino-Soviet summit?

[Answer] The world knows China's stance regarding the Cambodian problem, that is, that it is an obstacle that must be resolved before the normalization of the Sino-Soviet relations. In our opinion, this stance will not change. If the Soviet Union really wants to normalize relations with China, it should take an active role in settling the Cambodian problem. It is well known that the Soviet Union has helped Vietnam in its aggression against Cambodia. Without Soviet assistance, Vietnam would not be able to continue its aggression against Cambodia. Therefore, the Soviet Union cannot deny its responsibility for the Cambodian problem. We are of the opinion that the Soviet Union should do something positive if it really wants normal relations with China.

Chairman Deng Xiaoping declared recently that although the Sino-Soviet summit has already been fixed in principle, there are still many problems related to the Cambodian problem to be resolved.

[Question] Do you foresee any possibility of a change in China's stance regarding the Cambodian problem, particularly the Khmer Rouge?

[Answer] China's stance regarding this problem is also clear. China does not support any particular faction; China supports Cambodia's struggle. China demands that Vietnam must withdraw its troops from Cambodia, and supports the formation of a government of national reconciliation in the form of a quadripartite government under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. China has clearly stated that it does not support any party to monopolize power by itself. We do not object to this Chinese stance. This is because we do not intend to monopolize power for ourselves. We realize that the only way for Cambodia to survive is through national reconciliation and the broad support of the world community.

In face of the danger of Vietnam annexing Cambodia, which is a clear and ever-present danger due to Vietnam's systematic strategy over several decades—that is, its Indochinese Federation strategy—and given the current geopolitical situation around Cambodia, we have no other choice but:

1. Successfully protect the great nation so that Cambodia will survive; or
2. (?Allow) the forces of great national union to split up and become dispersed which will automatically turn Cambodia into fodder for Vietnam.

[Question] How are you preparing for the nonaligned countries' summit. Do you expect anything from this summit with regard to the Cambodian problem?

[Answer] The decision by the majority of the member countries of the nonaligned movement to hand over the task of organizing this summit to Yugoslavia clearly proves that the policy pursued by Yugoslavia, which always upholds the nonaligned banner, is correct. At the same time, this decision reflects the profound aspiration of the majority of nonaligned countries for this movement to turn its direction toward the line initiated by the founders of this movement among whom noble President Tito was in the front line. It is within this spirit that we hope that the nonaligned movement will return to Cambodia its rights as a member of the great family of this nonaligned.

It is unreasonable to say that Democratic Kampuchea should lose its rights in the nonaligned movement because it was a victim of foreign aggression. On the contrary, the nonaligned movement should protect the victim and oppose the aggression. In this connection, we are of the opinion that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk—the only cofounder of the nonaligned movement still alive—should be invited to make a speech before the coming nonaligned summit in Belgrade. This would show that the nonaligned movement is turning toward its correct line in accordance with the aspirations of the majority of the nonaligned countries.

Phnom Penh Charges of Power Greed Rebutted
BK1803084489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Station Commentator (Uk Sunnary) political commentary: "Who Are the Shameless Power Maniacs?"]

[Text] The Heng Samrin puppet group has kept clamoring that the leaders of the Cambodian resistance movement have refused to end the war in order to put an end to the Cambodian people's suffering because they are greedy for power.

Now, we would like to give the truth about this abject propaganda and to lay bare who are the real power maniacs.

First of all, we would like to urge all those thick-headed puppets to accept the fact the duty of the Cambodian sons is primarily to drive Vietnam out of Cambodia because this matter involves the consciousness of the Cambodians in their capacity as a nation which used to enjoy full independence, rights, and freedoms, and subjugated to no one.

The current struggle is being waged because of the spirit of patriotism of the Cambodians who have seen the most serious consequences to our nation due to the loss of national independence, and not because of their coveting for personal power as claimed in the deceitful propaganda.

Proofs have been clearly displayed before the eyes of all Cambodians. In addition to fighting for national independence, the armed forces of all Cambodian resistance parties have demanded that the Cambodian people be

allowed to enjoy the full rights and freedoms to decide their own destiny, that is to allow the Cambodian people—the owners of the country—to have the full rights to decide the destiny of the Cambodian motherland by themselves without pressure from any Cambodian party or any foreign country.

The armed forces of the Cambodian fighters are not the ones who have seized the power through the force of arms. It is in fact the handful of those pro-Ho Chi Minh Cambodians in Phnom Penh who have prevented the Cambodian people from enjoying the rights, freedoms, and power to decide their own destiny for fear of losing its lofty power given by the Vietnamese.

Who then are the real shameless power maniacs? Isn't it the pro-Ho Chi Minh Cambodians in Phnom Penh who are willing even to lick the Vietnamese's boots so long as they are given the power as puppets?

All Cambodians will not be fooled by the abject slanderous propaganda aimed at putting the blame on the Cambodian fighters and covering up their own wrongdoing. All Cambodians have been well aware of the fact that only Vietnam and its valets can use such insane words to cover their own wrong-doing which is being condemned daily by the Cambodian people and the world.

All Cambodian fighters do not covet power as the Vietnamese henchmen are barking. The Cambodians wage the struggle because they covet national independence which has been handed over to Vietnam by the power maniacs in Phnom Penh in exchange for the power to become (Vietnamese) puppets and traitors to their own nation.

Indonesia

Refugee Cut-Off Date Announced for 17 Mar
BK1603154189 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian
1500 GMT 16 Mar 89

[Text] Indonesia has announced 17 March 1989 as the cut-off date [two preceeding words in English] for any new arrival of illegal Vietnamese immigrants to Indonesia, and points out that this is its final decision. New illegal Vietnamese immigrants to Indonesia will not be considered as having the automatic right to be resettled in third countries.

The announcement issued by the Foreign Department today also stated that since the announcement was issued, the new illegal Vietnamese arrivals, known as boat people, will be subjected to careful scrutiny to confirm whether they are conditionally legitimate refugees.

According to the Foreign Department's press statement, humanitarian assistance will definitely be extended to the new arrivals. Currently, the Galang Island transit camp for Indochinese refugees is maintaining about 2,500 refugees who are still awaiting resettlement to third countries.

Daily Views Preparations for PRC Normalization
BK1703115989 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN
in Indonesian 11 Mar 89 p 6

[Editorial: "Preparations on the Eve of Normalization of Sino-Indonesian Relations"]

[Text] In connection with Armed Forces Commander General Tri Sutrisno's remarks that the Indonesian Government's decision to normalize relations with the PRC must be fully supported by all groups in the country, our next problem is how to translate the solidified national attitude into a concrete action to support the comprehensive preparation process toward such normalization.

Following the freezing of Sino-Indonesian relations for more than 20 years, it is true that we need comprehensive national preparations to enable us to start the normalization process in a prepared manner. The Armed Forces commander also said that an assessment of the situation will be made so as to safeguard the government's decision. In other words, preparations will be made to ensure that as far as security is concerned, we will be fully prepared to pursue normal relations.

The security aspect will obviously receive proper attention in the negotiations leading to the agreement, which will provide the formal basis for normalization. In such an agreement, there will certainly be clauses on the security aspect stipulating that the two sides will not, directly or indirectly, interfere in each other's internal affairs. What we mean is the need to have a clause that clearly rejects the belief that party-to-party relations (in this case, between the CPC and the outlawed Indonesian Communist Party) are not covered by such an agreement.

Undoubtedly, our comprehensive national preparations on the eve of normalized relations are not limited to the security aspect, and the Armed Forces commander is fully aware of it. Our main concern is to reap as much benefit as possible from the normalization while continuing to pay constant attention to the security aspect. In this connection, it will probably be useful to learn from Malaysia's experience in reaping economic and diplomatic benefits from its normalized relations with the PRC.

In theory, there will be no linkage between the normalization of Sino-Indonesian diplomatic relations and our nation-building [two preceding words in English] process, which is implemented by mobilizing all groups, including the Chinese ethnic group, into the process.

The process is popularly described as making the ethnic Chinese adopt Indonesian ways and the Indonesian people adopt Chinese ways. This means that, on the one hand, we try to make the ethnic Chinese an integral part of the Indonesian people in their personal, social, and national life. On the other hand, we want the indigenous people to rectify their backwardness in economic matters by improving their ways of thinking and doing business so they will be on par with the ethnic Chinese.

In reality, the normalization of relations will increase individual and group contacts with the PRC, which in turn will produce an impact on the nation-building process in our country. In this connection, the issue of Indonesian nationals of Chinese descent, Chinese nationals, and stateless [preceding word in English] persons will certainly deserve our greatest attention.

For over 20 years, we in Indonesia have hardly known anything about what has been happening in the PRC. Therefore, on the eve of the normalized relations, systematic efforts are needed to introduce the PRC to our society. This way, we will more or less know what kind of country we will be dealing with. This is essential because what remains in people's minds is the old PRC, which supported the concept of Nasakom [unity among the nationalists, religious groups, and communists], encouraged the establishment of the Fifth Service [armed civilian force outside the Indonesian Armed Forces], and supported the G-30-S/PKI [Indonesian Communist Party-backed 30 September Movement].

As an initial step, it would be advisable that we hold preliminary discussions on the normalization move in our parliamentary hearings. At the same time, we are also establishing a new precedent of discussing major national issues in our parliamentary forums in an open manner. The government can therefore formally notify the parliament of its decision to normalize relations with the PRC. The parliament will respond to the government's move by conducting open hearings and then formally present the outcome of the hearings to the government as the "parliament's voice," which, in accordance with the 1945 Constitution, must be heeded by the government.

Laos

U.S.-Laos Dispute on Search for MIA's Ended
BK1703115889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1127 GMT
17 Mar 89

[Text] Bangkok, March 17 (AFP)—A U.S. team will fly to Laos Saturday [18 March] to conduct a joint search for the remains of U.S. servicemen missing in action (MIA) during the Indochina war, ending a dispute over a U.S. drug report critical of Laos.

U.S. spokesmen here and in Washington said a 16-strong team from Hawaii's Joint Casualty Resolution Center (JCRC) was to fly Saturday to the Laotian city of Savannakhet, on the Mekong River across from Thailand, and would stay between 10 to 14 days.

The team, lead by JCRC Deputy Commander Lieutenant-Colonel William Jordan, was originally due in Laos on March 4, but was refused permission after a U.S. State Department report charged that Laos had not cooperated with U.S. drug-interdiction efforts.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said "we are very pleased that the Lao Government has decided to continue with our joint efforts to resolve this pressing humanitarian issue."

"We look forward to expanding our dialogue and cooperation on narcotics matters with the Lao Government," Mr. Redman added.

A spokesman at the U.S. Embassy here, Ross Petzing, said the MIA search was not associated with "a known loss site," but that a survey conducted on the site during a joint U.S.-Laotian search last December suggested it was "worth investigating."

This will be the fifth joint excavation since searches began in February 1985. The U.S. State Department said on March 14 that there were 2,371 MIA's in Indochina, 545 in Laos.

Washington issues an annual report on the progress made by 24 countries in their efforts to stamp out narcotics activities. Only those who receive a satisfactory report are eligible for U.S. aid.

Laos, which is allied to Vietnam, immediately responded to the U.S. report by threatening to delay all improvements in bilateral relations.

On March 6 the official Vientiane news agency KPL said the charges could "jeopardize Lao-U.S. relations which are about to blossom," adding that "the U.S. act of linking Laos to a narcotics issue and announcing the suspension of its aid to Laos is unreasonable and unconstructive."

But Vientiane Radio said Monday that despite U.S. use of "numerous tricks to undermine" the Laotian Government, which does not receive U.S. aid, the government would continue to cooperate in the search for MIA's.

Earlier this year Vientiane said it was willing to cooperate with the United States in fighting narcotics production in Laos, but stressed that a comprehensive assistance program was needed to stop farmers planting crops like opium from which drugs are manufactured.

The State Department's 1989 International Narcotics Control Strategy report said opium production was fast expanding in Laos and could approach 300 tonnes this year.

Earlier this week, senior Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) official David Westrate told the House of Representatives Task Force on International Narcotics Control that opium production in Laos had been "steadily expanding since 1984," with the trend likely to continue in the 1988-89 growing season.

Mr. Westrate stressed that cannabis cultivation had also increased in Laos.

Phoun Sipaseut Receives UN Official
BK1903045889 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] This morning, Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received [Rafaeuddin] Ahmed, under secretary general of the United Nations, who is currently paying an official visit to the LPDR.

During the meeting, the host and guest discussed various ways to strengthen cooperation and relations between the LPDR and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] at present and in the future. They also discussed other international issues. During his 2-day visit to the LPDR on 17 and 18 March, Ahmed met and exchanged views with Soulivong Phasithidet, deputy foreign affairs minister, on various issues of mutual interest.

Philippines

Secretary Grants Repair Access to Soviet Ships
HK2003113589 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 19 Mar 89 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Philippines has for the first time granted the Soviet fishing fleet local repair access, the Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday.

Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion gave permission this week in Moscow while heading an official trade mission. The two countries also signed a protocol agreement to increase bilateral trade five-fold to \$200 million by 1992.

"Concepcion... gave the green light to the Soviet through V/O Sovrybflot, the agency responsible for the USSR fishing fleet, to initiate the repair of 120 of its fishing vessels at a total cost of approximately \$8.4 million, a statement released by the trade and industry department said.

Moscow has in the past requested repair rights for its fishing vessels at a shipyard near the U.S. naval base at Subic Bay northwest of Manila, but the United States has resisted such moves, saying it feared the Soviets would spy on the base.

The Philippines, Washington's closest Southeast Asian ally and host to the two biggest U.S. overseas military bases, has declined permission.

The statement said Concepcion had given Moscow the right to begin negotiations with Philippine shipyards for repairs.

It quoted him as saying the PNO [Philippine National Oil Company] Dockyard and Engineering Corporation, a subsidiary of the state-owned Philippine National Oil

Company, and Keppel Philippines Shipyard, Inc, a private company, had said they wanted to do the repair work in Cebu and in Batangas.

A senior government official said the Philippines had not formally banned repair rights for Soviet vessels in the past, but there had been "an implied prohibition."

During the March 9-14 trade mission in which Philippine officials and businessmen visited Moscow, Leningrad, Khabarovsk and Vladivostok, the two sides agreed to expand commercial, technical and economic cooperation.

Assistant Trade and Industry Secretary Felicisimo Nacino said over the telephone that the Soviet Union had agreed during meetings with Concepcion's mission to buy twice as much in Philippine exports as Moscow sold to Manila.

"It signals a political will for the USSR to bend backwards for the Philippines," he said.

Hiring of US Professional Lobby Group Reported
HK2003055789 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 20 Mar 89 pp 1, 6

[By associate editor Jarius Bondoc]

[Text] Central Bank Gov. Jose B. Fernandez has spent \$214,509.60 (roughly P [pesos] 4.3 million) for the legal services of a professional lobby group in the United States since 1987. This brings to a total of \$515,323.23 (P10.3 million) the amount so far confirmed spent by the administration of President Corazon Aquino for public relations and lobby firms in Washington, D.C.

Documents obtained by the GLOBE from the U.S. Department of Justice show that Fernandez hired early in 1987 the law-lobby firm Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton (CGSH).

No written contract was made CGSH partner J. Eugene Marans told the justice department in January 20, 1987 that "we have been requested orally to provide legal services to the foreign principal (Philippine government)...The term of our engagement is indefinite. We will be compensated for our efforts in accordance with our normal billing practice, under which fees are set primarily on the basis of time expended by our professional staff. In addition, it is understood that we will be reimbursed for disbursements, including costs of communication, photocopies, word processing, travel and postage."

Marans said CGSH's job was to assist or represent the Philippine government in meetings or communications with U.S. officials. The engagement was "in connection with the foreign indebtedness of the government and of public sector entities located in the Philippines."

Fernandez, the only top holdover official from the Marcos government, conducts talks with foreign government and commercial creditors concerning the country's

\$28 billion foreign debt. Since he assumed office in 1983, he has negotiated, together with finance chiefs Cesar Virata, Jaime Ongpin or Vicente Jayme, for debt rescheduling and new loans with the International Monetary fund, the Paris Club, and the five-bank committee for over 450 commercial lenders led by Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

The documents show that Fernandez paid CGSH \$111,768.28 (roughly P2.3 million) in 1987 and \$102,741.32 (P2 million) in 1988.

Lawyers Lee C. Buchheit and William F. Gorin directly handled the Philippine government account for CGSH.

Earlier, sources from the revitalized Nacionalista Party [NP] gave the GLOBE documents, also from the U.S. Justice Department, showing that the Aquino administration has also spent since 1986 another \$300,813.63 (P6 million) for several other PR [public relations] and lobby firms and consultants. Of the amount, \$239,000 (P4.8 million) was spent for preparations and media blitz for Mrs. Aquino's working visit to the U.S. in September 1986.

Hired exclusively for the U.S. visit were:

—International Business Communications [IBC], by Amb. Emmanuel Pelaez, for a still undisclosed amount and upon the recommendation of the U.S. State Department. IBC, in turn, hired seven consultants at the following rates per annum [p.a.] and paid in advance on September 1, 1986 the following amounts. Richard R. Miller, \$60,000 p.a., got \$42,500; Francis D/ Gomez, \$80,000 p.a., got \$42,500; David C. Fischer, \$100,000 p.a., got \$66,500; Jacqueline M. Clemons, \$20,000 p.a., got \$13,400; Stephen J. Schwartz, at \$40,000 p.a., got \$22,600; Charles Rochner, undetermined amount.

—Sawyer Miller Group [SMG], at \$180,000 p.a. SMG, in turn, hired as consultants: G. Mark Malloch Brown from January (antedated) to August 1986, paid \$28,000, and David E. Morey starting September 1986, for undetermined amount.

—Robert Warner, hired by the private, non-stock, non-profit Philippine U.S. Council of New York in behalf of the government. While the contract stated an undetermined retainer, Warner got \$11,000 in all in 1986.

—Gallard, Kharasch, Morse & Garfinkle, hired also by the Council for its Manila branch on September 11, 1986. Its fees were supposed to be paid by Council members in the United States, but there is no record of how much it actually got.

Aside from the visit, several government agencies also hired PR and law-lobby firms for specific purposes:

—M. Graeme Bannerman, hired on August 1, 1988 to work for SMG in promoting RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. relations, particularly in connection

with the bases review, at \$96,000 p.a. The Philippine Coconut Authority [PCA] tapped the same consultant from November 15, 1987 to July 31, 1988 at \$60,000 p.a. to help oppose the anti-coconut oil lobby of the American Soybean Association in the U.S. Congress. PCA paid Bannerman \$26,253.72 from November 1987 to March 1988.

—Reichler, Appelbaum & Wippman, hired by the private but government-controlled United Coconut Association of the Philippines, in behalf of the PCA, for an indeterminate amount in 1988, also to help counteract the soybean lobby. It was actually paid \$31,000 in 1988.

—The Fontayne Group, hired by Philippine Airlines [PAL] starting June 1987 at hourly rates, plus direct expenses. For helping PAL get media mileage from U.S. travel writers, it sent bills for \$3,659.91 from May to June 1988.

—Again, Gallard, Kharzsch, Morse & Garfinkle, also hired by PAL but only up to 1988, to present its stand on aviation issues, particularly the U.S.-RP Air Transport Agreement. It charged hourly rates but the actual amount paid is undetermined.

The documents showed that the government committed itself to pay at least \$736,000 (P14.72 million) for PR and lobby services in Washington. But the actual amount paid was \$515,323.23 (P10.3 million).

Vice President Salvador Laurel, erstwhile head of the dissolved Union for National Action [UNA], which was absorbed by the NP, said last week the Aquino administration was hypocritical for hiring about 15 PR and lobby firms in the United States.

Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno disputed Laurel's statement insisted the government had only one such firm—SMG.

Laurel, acknowledged head of the political opposition, made the remarks in response to privilege speeches by presidential kin Reps. Jose Cojuangco Jr. and Emigdio Tanjuatco that UNA had contracted the firm Black, Manafort, Stone & Kelly to discredit the Philippine Congress before the White House and Capitol Hill and destabilize the administration. Tanjuatco showed documents, also from the U.S. Justice Department, that UNA signed a contract for \$900,000 (P18 million) and actually paid \$200,000 (P4 million), from funds allegedly taken from dollar-salting businessmen, hidden wealth of Marcos and his cronies, or the anti-communist Causa International of the Moonies, or the so-called Reunification Church led by South Korean preacher Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

Taiwanese To Invest in More Real Estate
HK2003055589 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English
20 Mar 89 pp 1, 3

[By Bayani S. Cruz]

[Text] Taiwanese investors will pump in at least P [pesos] 10 billion worth of investments into Philippine real estate projects this year.

This assurance was made by Emilia "Bien Bien" Roxas, daughter of Taiwan-based Filipino millionaire Tan Yu who chairs investment behemoth Asiaworld Internationale Group, a Taipei-based corporation with substantial real estate investments in the Philippines.

Roxas made the assurance in a speech delivered yesterday during a luncheon hosted in her honor and attended by ranking members of the Cabinet, Congress, and the business community, after she was conferred an honorary doctoral degree in Business Administration by her alma mater, the Philippine Women's University (PWU).

Roxas originally disclosed the huge size of the incoming Taiwanese real estate investments when she met with President Aquino in Malacanang the other day.

She said that the Tan Yu group of companies alone will invest P10 billion in the Philippines for the development of the 173-hectare Marina property, a portion of the reclaimed area along Manila Bay that was acquired by the Tan Yu group for P1.77 billion, in what is considered to be the single biggest real estate transaction last year.

Apart from the Tan Yu group, other Taiwanese investors are also in the process of pouring investments into proposed and existing real estate projects.

The huge volume of incoming real estate investments by the Taiwanese is expected to sustain the boom in the country's real estate industry that began after President Aquino came into power in 1986.

It is also expected to boost the country's chances of hitting the target of \$1 billion in Taiwanese investments that the government set for this year.

The Tan Yu group's P10 billion real estate investments will be used for the development of a massive "City within the Bay", a high-rise condominium complex which will include a 2,500 room hotel, a marina, business and commercial buildings.

The Tan Yu group has also expressed keen interest in acquiring the 180-hectare Central Business Park-I (CBP-I), another portion of the reclaimed area adjacent to the Marina property.

The Tan Yu group of companies is made up of the A & A Group and the AIC Development Corp.

The A & A Group has two subsidiaries, namely: the Marina Properties Corp. and the Asiaworld Philippines, while the AIC Development Corp has a number of subsidiaries, the latest of which is the Asia General Corp. headed by former Postmaster General J. Roilo Golez.

In her speech, Roxas urged government officials and business leaders to work towards building the Philippines into the fastest developing newly-industrialized country (NIC) within a record period of five to 10 years.

"On the part of the government, let it create the atmosphere and provide the incentives, firm, predictable rules and regulations that are kept to a minimum, a 5-year program that is dynamic, disciplined and achievable, and the support of infrastructure of highways, ports, airports, communications and transport system," Roxas said.

South Korea Said Willing To Join Aid Plan
HK2003033989 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT Mar 88

[Text] South Korea has offered to participate in the \$10 million Philippine Aid Plan [PAP], or mini-Marshall plan, to rescue the country from its mounting debt obligations and thus ease its economic difficulties. The offer came as the new ambassador from Korea No Chong-Ki presented his credentials to President Aquino at Malacanang recently. President Aquino said she was told by the ambassador that the Korean president has expressed a desire to participate in the PAP pledging ceremony expected to be held in June or July in Tokyo this year.

In her weekly program "Magtanong sa Pangulo [Ask the President]," Mrs Aquino said that the Koreans said they are not as affluent as Japan or the United States or other Western countries, but they are ready to help when necessary. The president made the disclosure even as she reiterated her confidence in Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme and Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez who are being challenged on the 3-year economic program they submitted to the International Monetary Fund for the country to avail of a \$1.3 billion credit package.

Aquino Launches 'Extensive' Antigraft Drive
HK1503112989 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 15 Mar 89

[From "GMA News" Program]

[Text] The president today launched an extensive campaign against government officials involved in the malversation of public funds and who will face criminal charges. The full report from Veronica Baluyut:

[Begin recording] At the cabinet meeting this morning, President Aquino instructed all cabinet secretaries to initiate an administrative investigation on all government officials cited by the Commission on Audit [COA] as being involved in malversation of public funds.

The president issued the order after COA chairman Eusemio Domingo reported on the commission's findings which revealed anomalies committed by some officials. COA earlier implicated Makati Major Jejomar Binay for questionable disbursement of millions of pesos from Makati's municipal funds.

Meanwhile, the president directed the Budget Department to work on the removal of pre-audit requirements for COA so as to grant the latter greater fiscal responsibilities. Chairman Domingo asked Mrs Aquino to certify as administration measures, a proposed resolution granting COA and other agencies fiscal autonomy and another resolution known as the government auditing code.

Also at the cabinet meeting, Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme and Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez spent almost an hour explaining the proposed economic program submitted to the IMF. After hearing their presentation, the cabinet announced its full support for the letter of intent. [end recording]

General Sues Antigraft Board
HK2003121389 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 20 Mar 89

[From "GMA news" program]

[Text] AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Vice Chief of Staff General Antonio Sotelo today filed court charges against AFP antigraft board chairman, retired General Manuel Flores. Sotelo is demanding P [pesos] 20 million in moral damages and P5 million in exemplary and corrective damages. He claimed that it was not true that he was building a P5 million mansion in Alabang Hills, adding that he was prepared to prove his claim.

[Begin Sotelo recording in English] These charges really stemmed from, maybe, wrong information. And I hope that now it is in the court and a judge will sit down to hear what everybody has to say, then maybe we will be able to solve this once and for all. [end recording]

Military's Role in Fighting Insurgency Viewed
HK2003054189 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 20 Mar 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Military's Proper Role in Fighting Insurgency"]

[Text] On its founding in 1968, the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] had only 25 members; in 1969, the New People's Army [NPA] had nine squads with 35 assorted rifles; while the National Democratic Front [NDF] was no more than a skeletal force in the early 70s.

But today, notes military man-turned communist rebel Victor Corpus, the influence of the CPP-NPA-NDF has spread to some 10,000 barangays, and from the nine ragtag squads, the NPA now operates in company- or battalion-sized formations, with armed regulars estimated at 24,000.

Corpus, who has since left the insurgent movement after his surrender and is now a lieutenant colonel with the Armed Forces, has written a book that seeks to explain the circumstances that led to the remarkable growth of the rebel forces and examines the insurgency and the counterinsurgency campaign.

Easily the most sensational of Corpus' conclusions is that the Armed Forces must win the war against the rebels in the next three years or "lose the war forever."

And before the war can be won, says Corpus, the military leadership must honestly admit and correct the tactical, strategic, and administrative deficiencies and errors besetting the organization.

Of course, Corpus' views cannot be taken as the definitive prognosis for the counterinsurgency campaign's chances of success. There are numerous schools of thought on the proper approach to wiping out the rebels, ranging from those who advocate large-scale operations using massive stores of forces and firepower against strategic targets, to those who want to concentrate on fielding small foot patrols living off the land, aping the guerillas' arduous existence, and fighting a slow, silent war of attrition. Such differences of opinion have even surfaced publicly, and continue to divide the defense and military establishment.

But Corpus' views deserve to be taken seriously, as they come from a man who has had a unique opportunity to study the roots and the conduct of both the insurgency and the counterinsurgency effort, lending his thoughts a broad perspective that cannot be dismissed lightly.

His call for the military leadership, then to carry out a self-examination and confess to errors in strategy, policy and administration must be heeded.

But even a rehabilitated, reinvigorated military cannot succeed by itself. For the Armed Forces do not operate in a vacuum, being part of a state machinery and ideally responding only to policy set by the political leadership, which is, in turn, expected to respond to concrete conditions and to public opinion, or else forge a vision to propel the nation forward. It is when the signals set by the leadership confuse and seemingly contradict, or show signs of wavering, that some in the military are tempted to take on a role in policymaking. But that is an aberrant role for the Armed Forces in a democracy.

As a young military officer once said in a TV talk show, the military's effort in fighting the insurgency is akin to mowing down the grass to manageable height. The task of pulling out the roots and getting rid of the problem once and for all lies in the civilian leadership.

Government Said Aiding Malaysian Dissidents
HK2003095189 Manila MANILA STANDARD
in English 17 Mar 89 p 4

[By Alito Maliano]

[Text] Nur Misuari, chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), has told the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) that the Aquino government is aiding the underground elements in the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak.

In his speech before the OIC ministerial meeting which ended yesterday in Riyadh, Misuari said that some dissident elements in Sabah are being trained by the Yellow ARmy of President Aquino at the Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac.

Misuari said that young Christian Sabahans are being "patronized" by Cardinal Jaime Sin whom he described as the Filipino version of Cardinal Richelieu of King Louis XIII of France.

Misuari said that the younger brother of the Chief Minister of Sabah "is liaising with Manila and allegedly even with Tel Aviv."

Misuari said that the government's assistance of Malaysian dissident movements is part of its "colonial policy of encirclement" and is aimed at weakening the Islamic countries of Southeast Asia.

He said that the Aquino government and the Zionist movement of Israel are "convinced to bring about the fragmentation of Malaysia."

When asked to comment on Misuari's allegations, DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] Spokesman Jorge Llorredo only said that Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus is having a press conference today to answer questions about Misuari's statement to the OIC.

Misuari said that the regional headquarters of the Mossad, the Israeli spy network, is being transferred to Manila from Singapore "to bolster the extent of collaboration between Manila and Tel Aviv."

In the same speech, Misurai also branded President Aquino as a traitor to the Bangsamoro people after she got MNLF cooperation for her government during the critical period following the February 1986 "revolution."

For the first time, Misuari revealed that Aquino, through an emissary sought MNLF assistance in securing Malacanang in November 1986 when, according to him, signs of coup d'etat were imminent.

But the MNLF leadership refused to be drawn into the crisis and asked for certain conditions before the MNLF could provide security assistance to the Palace, Misuari said.

Misuari said that after the series of coup attempts, Aquino "has become so weakened morally that she has virtually become a puppet in the crafty hands of Defense Minister Fidel Ramos."

Misuari said that the President's "inexperience and inherent weakness" have caused her to become prey to the "evil influence" of her political and military advisers.

Official Responds to Reported Misuari Return
HK1503100189 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0900 GMT 15 Mar 89

[Text] Here is a report from the Office of the Press Secretary regarding a report that MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] Chairman Nur Misuari has entered the country. Zeny Flores for the report:

[Begin recording in English in progress] ...Nur Misuari, chairman of the MNLF, was on the TV screen last night at about 10:28 pm. His remarks were to the effect that he is advocating an independence movement with some Visayas provinces joining him. And these remarks from Misuari were taken up during the meeting of Cluster E [a grouping of cabinet members] of the cabinet this morning and after due deliberations, members of the Cluster E headed by Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez felt that they have to make a response. The response is the following:

The Philippines cannot yield an inch of its political sovereignty and territorial independence and this is very much emphasized by the constitution of the Philippines which was approved by an overwhelming majority of 76 percent during the plebiscite. So the Philippine position is very, very strong in this regard. [end recording]

That was Zeny Flores reading a statement from Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno in response to reports that MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari is now in the country.

Misuari Says Alih in Territory of Moro Homeland
HK1503112789 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television
Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 15 Mar 89

[From "GMA News" Program]

[Text] MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] Chairman Nur Misuari denied that the MNLF was involved in the bomb explosion in front of the house of Senator Mamintal Tamano.

In an overseas telephone interview, Misuari claimed that he had received information indicating that the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] was responsible for the grenade explosion. Misuari also spoke about Rizal Alih who is being hunted by the military, claiming that Alih is inside the territory of Bangsa Moro [Moro Homeland] and not in the Middle East because he has no passport to travel overseas.

[Begin Misuari recording in English] I have no personal contacts with Alih and I do not have any intention actually to present him before the OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] because there is no way of bringing him here to the Middle East. [end recording]

MNLF Said No Longer 'Decisive Factor'
HK2003115389 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 19 Mar 89 pp 6, 11

[Column by Melchor P. Aquino: "MNLF (Moro National Liberation Front) Setback"]

[Text] The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) has suffered a new setback in its protracted drive for membership in the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC]. The 1989 meeting of the OIC, which was held in Saudi Arabia, adjourned without granting or awarding membership to the MNLF.

As a matter of fact, the OIC communique did not make any pronouncement that would hold out any prospect of MNLF membership.

Nur Misuari, MNLF high priest, was quoted in press dispatches from Riyadh as saying that he did not press his group's bid for OIC membership. This is the sort of prevarication that competent observers generally expect from Misuari. Based as he is in the Middle East, he knew all the time that the MNLF did not have a ghost of a chance to win membership in the potent Islamic organization. If he did not know, he would have to be hopelessly dense.

Ambassador Pacifico Castro, the Foreign Office's expert on Middle East and African Affairs, had contended all along that the MNLF had no valid claim to membership in an organization of sovereign states. It is pathetic that some simpletons in Congress were on tenterhooks, apparently afraid that the OIC, for love of Misuari, might amend or relax its bylaws to accommodate the MNLF. A few congressmen were even contemplating to constitute themselves into a special mission to talk to Misuari.

As foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus has long counselled, policymakers and decisionmakers must bear the fundamental fact in mind that the Philippines has friendly and cordial relations with the member states of the OIC. These ties are central to OIC consideration of the Mindanao problem and the long drawn-out attempt of Misuari to pit the influential Islamic association against the Philippines.

Misuari's kilometric and perfervid presentation at the Riyadh gathering failed to elicit condemnation of the Philippines from the conferees. The communique, according to official sources, urged in non-vituperative terms, the implementation of the Tripoli Agreement.

Misuari certainly will continue to contend that the proposed organic act for Muslim Mindanao is a negation of the Tripoli Agreement, and that anything short of the MNLF formula for Mindanao autonomy is unacceptable to him and his group.

Misuari is impaled on his categorial affirmation of non-adherence to the Philippine Constitution and his obstinate rejection of constitutional processes and popular participation in the pursuit of Mindanao autonomy. Stripped of propaganda, chicanery, and balderdash, the MNLF position, as delineated by Misuari, is that the Mindanao problem can only be resolved on MNLF terms.

Clearly, Misuari and his group are committed to a solution that is diametrically opposed to the democratic process, and destructive of national unity and solidarity. The course on which they are embarked, if relentlessly and effectively pursued, can only lead to the dismemberment of Philippine territory and irretrievable desecration of the integrity of the Republic.

Misuari and his group unabashedly seek a standard of conduct for themselves completely and absolutely different from that by which the overwhelming majority of Filipinos live. They want to live beyond the fundamental law of the land, free to do with Mindanao as they darn well please. In the real workaday world, things do not happen that way. The free, untrammelled play of national sovereignty is the very soul of the democratic system to which the Philippines irrevocably is wedded.

The Philippine government should stop pandering to the whim and caprice of Misuari and the MNLF. Internally, they have ceased to be a decisive factor in national affairs; externally, they really do not have the clout that they claim.

Legislation on Mindanao should, in the national interest, continue on its present course.

Misuari and the MNLF are not Mindanao. And Mindanao is not Misuari nor the MNLF.

Columnist Claims MNLF 'Dead', 'Spent Force'
HK2003113189 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 19 Mar 89 p 12

["Reflections" column by Alan C. Robles: "Laying the MNLF's Ghost to Rest"]

[Text] The MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] is dead, only it doesn't know it.

Nobody seems to want to tell it the bad news, either.

Perhaps it has something to do with the fact that chairman Nur Misuari's group makes such good copy at this time of the year.

It's that time when dutifully, like a conscientious restless ghost, the MNLF issues forth, making frightful noises and rattling its chains—all to the ineffable delight of the press.

Never mind that by most forms of political reckoning, the group is just a shadow of its former self, a spent force momentarily bereft of imaginative ideas, reduced to periodically uttering mighty statements and dreadful threats.

Never mind that the MNLF has about as much chance of gaining OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] recognition as Ronald Reagan has of remembering the details of Iran-Contra.

In spite of these, this is the second straight March where the press has served up a fresh batch of MNLF stories; a fresh batch with a stale angle, the one focusing on Misuari's bid to get OIC recognition.

The media fixation with the OIC-MNLF connection raises the suspicion that coverage of the story has either become institutional, like some national holiday, or seasonal, like a typhoon.

Admittedly, the treatment this year is a bit more reserved than it was last year, when reporters gullibly believed yarn-spinning MNLF spokesmen who went to town describing imminent recognition and what it would bring—floods of petrodollars, arms, political support, everything a little separatist heart could desire.

Still, the question that should be asked is why the story deserves to be given prominence at all. More to the point, why base the story on the same old premises?

The implicit assumptions that the media continue to make are: first the MNLF is still a decisive and potent force; second, the MNLF has a chance to get OIC recognition.

Those premises are as dead now as they have been for years, as they were last year, when in an orgy of sensationalism, some papers launched "OIC Hysteria Week" and outdid each other describing the crisis that OIC recognition of MNLF would bring to the Aquino Administration.

Neither was the Administration far behind the reporters. Its behavior could be favorably compared to that of Chicken Little squawking about the sky falling.

Later, when it turned out that imminent OIC recognition was an MNLF hoax, and the whole story phonus balonus, government officials brought out champagne as if it were a diplomatic coup of the first order.

Far from acknowledging the egg on its face, one newspaper which had flogged the story for all it was worth unabashedly pronounced on the need for people not to overreact to such things.

What is actually needed, as this year's fresh batch of MNLF-OIC stories show, is a closer look at the emperor's new clothes, a realistic appraisal of Nur Misuari's revolutionary organization.

That organization, at the moment, is at a nadir, brought there when its leadership overreached themselves. The MNLF has often enjoyed the advantage of being thought to be stronger than it actually is. It was when it started acting as if this were true that it started to be left behind by events.

It can even be argued that the Aquino government was instrumental in causing the MNLF to overrate its importance.

After its heyday in the late 1970s, when it had fought a bloody war, gained international attention, and forced Marcos to send his wife to Tripoli, the MNLF began to fragment. Nur Misuari was leading the life of a part self-exile, mimeographing manifestoes abroad, when his organization was given a new lease on life by the Aquino Administration.

The newspaper pictures of 1986 show the MNLF leadership arriving at the MIA [Manila International Airport], swaggering and posing in their freshly-starched fatigues, a martial pose made incongruous by the duty-free shopping bags they were carrying.

That was, after the Mindanao war, the new high point of the organization. By choosing to hold peace talks with the MNLF, the Aquino Administration had given it a status and prestige which it had never before received from Manila.

Unfortunately, the MNLF chose to squander this advantage. Government negotiators offered the organization a role in Mindanao's future, under the umbrella of autonomy, but the organization spurned this sort of settlement. Its own proposal lay in the direction of secession, with the MNLF having the predominant role in the South. It was a proposal incompatible with Manila's idea of sovereignty.

In the end Nur Misuari shut himself out from any settlement and ended up missing the bus. He gave up a chance for the MNLF to continue being a major player.

It's a fairly common truism that goals should match capabilities. Since the MNLF rejected the Government's offer, and since it didn't have the strength to settle the impasse by other means, it ended up falling between two stools.

Misuari's disadvantages can be spelled in terms of three outs: out of power, out of touch and out of the country. With Muslim rebels fighting each other as much as they fight Manila, with the people of Mindanao worn out by a war that has been going on since the 1970s, without

OIC support, without the actual presence of Misuari here, and with his rejection of further talk, the MNLF has effectively moved out of the mainstream and become a ghost of its former self.

At the moment all that the MNLF can offer is the force of arms. Since the group will never be strong enough to prevail, and since developments in Mindanao are moving on to other levels, violence could reduce the Muslim rebels to the status of terrorists, a move that would alienate them from the masses.

Misuari can continue going to the OIC, regaling them with horror tales of the Aquino Administration's murderous intent, but this effort will not amount to anything unless the Aquino Administration does something really and exquisitely inept (such as resume warring against the Muslims, which is extremely unlikely).

Until then, the OIC will continue to place the MNLF way below its list of topics (it has never figured as a major topic in the agenda since the late 1970s), and the organization will be merely a face in a crowd of hopefuls—up in there with Bulgaria's and Thailand's separatist groups.

Media ignorance and sensationalism might keep the MNLF in the news, but these will never be a substitute for concrete initiatives. And until those are produced, the group will always be marching out of step. Even the OIC card is bound to wear thin sooner or later.

The press might still see in the current MNLF the force that ferociously battled Marcos in the 1970s. But the current MNLF actually only invites a sad comparison with what it was a decade ago.

The MNLF's propagandists might think that they're still successful in frightening people. They should remember people can be frightened by ghosts.

But ghosts will always remain insubstantial.

Thailand

Chatchai Returns From China; Reports on Visit
BK1803014089 Bangkok Domestic Service
in Thai 0000 GMT 18 Mar 89

[Text] The visit to China of Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan and his delegation is considered very successful. The Cambodian problem was discussed during the visit. China and Thailand shared the same wish on the establishment of durable peace in Southeast Asia. China is ready to coordinate cooperation [on the Cambodian question] with the Soviet Union during their upcoming summit.

Upon his return from Beijing to Bangkok International Airport at 2200 last night, the prime minister noted the opportunity to talk with Chinese leaders. He said:

[Begin Chatchai recording] On this visit, I had the opportunity to meet the six most important individuals of China: 1. Deng Xiaoping, 2. Zhao Ziyang, 3. Li Peng, 4. Wang Zhen, the vice president, 5. Yang Shangkun, the president, and 6. Deng Yingchao, wife the late Zhou Enlai. There are no Chinese officials more senior than those six individuals. I think the Thai delegation is the first group to have met all these six important Chinese officials during a 3-day visit. [end recording]

On the meeting with Prince Sihanouk, there was a proposal to end separation of the Cambodians into different factions by setting up a national reconciliation government. The prime minister said:

[Begin Chatchai recording] During the meeting with Prince Sihanouk, I informed him that we support—this support is shared by many other people—first, withdrawal of Vietnamese soldiers from Cambodia; secondly, there must be a coalition government [preceding two words in English] under presidency of Prince Sihanouk; and thirdly, all foreign countries must cut back military assistance to the various Cambodian factions. This is the important issue. [end recording]

The prime minister said there is great possibility for cooperation between Thailand and China on development of the Mekong River which will generate great political and economic benefits, he said:

[Begin Chatchai recording] The Mekong River originates from Tibet, China and flows through Yunnan. It is very important because it passes through several countries. It has two potential benefits—generation of electricity and supplying water for agriculture. These are its economic benefit. The countries through which the river passes should have especially close relations, hence the river generates both economic and political benefits. So far we have not harnessed the river, letting it drain to the sea. Think of it this way—5 baht for every cubic meter and it flows around the clock—we have not made any use of it. [end recording]

Chatchai Comments on Hun Sen, Sihanouk Visits
BK1803074289 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
18 Mar 89 pp 1, 21

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Speaking to newsmen at a news conference upon returning from China, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhavan reported on his contacts with Chinese leaders during his stay in China. He said his golf game with Zhao Ziyang is historic because it was the first game Zhao played with a foreign leader. The prime minister said Zhao played well and would become a good golfer.

The prime minister said Deng Xiaoping's health is good despite his age, as evidenced by the freshness of his face. He said his 1 hour 40 minute long meeting with Deng Xiaoping is historic.

Asked to comment on a meeting which a Thai paper will organize on the topic of the Cambodian conflict and its plan to invite Hun Sen to participate, the prime minister said there is no recognition of Hun Sen's status and noted: How can he be allowed to participate when no diplomatic relations exist? He invited Hun Sen here last time because the latter wanted to come.

The prime minister disclosed that Prince Sihanouk will come to Thailand on or about 28 or 29 April and will stay until 1 June [as published] when he will leave for Indonesia to meet President Suharto after which he will return to Thailand for another 2-week stay. [passage omitted]

Chawalit 'Warns' About Cambodian Situation
BK2003093589 Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai
16 Mar 89 pp 21, 22

[Article: "Big Chiu Warns About a Big Battle in Cambodia"]

[Excerpt] According to our sources, "The apparent intention to prevent the Khmer Rouge from being part of the administration in Cambodia after the withdrawal of Vietnamese soldiers has started a dangerous fire. The Khmer Rouge will not tolerate its exclusion; it feels that it must be a part, minor or major, in the Cambodian administration. It was feared that the Khmer Rouge would go its own separate way after Hun Sen's visit to Thailand. The Khmer Rouge does not accept the Heng Samrin side because the latter drove it out of Phnom Penh." At present the real situation in Cambodia is different from the situation as seen by the people behind the political curtain.

LAK THAI has learned that the Khmer Rouge have taken their able-bodied men and women—those who are not children, elderly people, or the sick—into the Cambodian interior. It reportedly has cached enough weapons and food supplies for 2 years of fighting and its current strength is over 40,000.

This is part of a LAK THAI's special report to substantiate Big Chiu's [General Chawalit] warning about the coming big battle in Cambodia.

February 24th marked the "Special Warfare Day." Every year General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the first paratrooper student to advance to army commander, would spend the whole day in Lop Buri to celebrate the occasion. On 24 February Gen Chawalit and such senior army officers as Deputy Army Commander Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun and Assistant Army Commander Gen Phichit Kunlawanit, who is a senior paratroop trainer, attended exhibitions and celebrations, which included the inauguration of the new building housing the headquarters of the Special Warfare Command. Among attendants at the celebrations that night were Deputy Prime Minister Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan and Lieutenant Gen Anek Bunyathi, former commander of the Special Warfare Command. At this gathering, Gen Chawalit frankly informed his subordinates about the real

situation in Cambodia, an assessment which did not quite match what the politicians hoped, particularly concerning their desire to transform Cambodia into a marketplace.

That night Gen Chawalit praised the performance of special warfare personnel and said they must carry on the spirit of the previous generations of special warfare officers. He said the Special Warfare Command soldiers' duties and missions and the dangers facing them are unlimited. He pledged to fully support their activities and to "always stand alongside you."

Gen Chawalit said: "Do not be deceived by a situation in which you might think that peace is approaching."

Gen Chawalit said: "If we allow ourselves to relax and let ourselves be deceived by the possibility of peace, we will be making a big mistake." He said he had instructed the three Armed Forces to follow the situation and be ready to cope with any change in the situation toward more intensive fighting as every Cambodian faction would be trying to gain the upper hand to enhance its bargaining power at the negotiation table.

Gen Chawalit said: "The coming dry season in Cambodia will be final and decisive. The problem will definitely affect Thailand. Being special warfare soldiers, your units will have to face the situation. Therefore I want to tell you in advance to be prepared. Special warfare units' missions are not limited by time, situation, or place. They will have to be the first units to face the problem."

Gen Chawalit said frankly and clearly that the situation in Cambodia will become more violent because every Cambodian faction will seek to gain the "strong hand" to strengthen its position at the negotiation table. By saying this will be the final dry season and the situation will be more violent, Gen Chawalit was warning special warfare soldiers not to relax vigilance; they might think that the situation will be calm because the battlefield is being turned into a marketplace. He already informed the three Armed Forces of the anticipated situation this dry season, but was emphasizing it to the special warfare soldiers because they will be the first ones to face the situation. A senior military officer told LAK THAI that Gen Chawalit was being frank about the situation and Chawalit's assessment may contradict that of other circles. Gen Chawalit feared that the soldiers may relax vigilance or be deceived by the situation as seen by the political circle and the people in general.

LAK THAI learned from its sources that the situation in Cambodia began to be more violent even before the second Jakarta informal meeting. The Khmer Rouge were more active and mobilized their forces to operate in the Cambodian interior. Its 40,000 strong forces have enough weapons and food supplies to support 2 years of operations. The sources say the Khmer Rouge feel that they have the capability to shell Phnom Penh this year. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Views Refugee Resettlement
BK1703131889 Bangkok NAO NA in Thai
15 Mar 89 p 20

[Text] Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawet-sila said that ASEAN had agreed to stop granting automatically resettlement for Vietnamese refugees because it is difficult to prove whether the Vietnamese left their country for political or economic reasons. However, most of them fled the country for economic reasons and third countries have refused to accept them for resettlement. The number of Vietnamese boat people arriving in Thailand has not decreased.

Asked to comment on why the Vietnamese still leave the country despite the fact that the situation in Vietnam has returned to normal, the foreign minister said that there were still internal political problems. If the problems are solved, the Vietnamese will not leave the country. Seven Vietnamese refugees have agreed to return home voluntarily.

Asked about how the United States views ASEAN's decision, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said that the United States had not expressed any opinion. The United States will attend the upcoming international conference on Indochinese refugees in Geneva. ASEAN has shouldered the refugee problem for a long time already.

Asked about Laos agreeing to take back its refugees, the foreign minister said that it is a good agreement. When they return home, they will have land to earn a living. Thailand and Laos were able to reach the agreement because they are good neighbors. Laos will take back the first batch of 2,000 Lao refugees. It is believed that Laos will take back more in the future.

Foreign Minister Sitthi also told reporters about the progress of the project to build a bridge across the Mekong River. He said that if Australia hands over the money, the bridge can be constructed immediately. Laos is designing the construction. But, if a railway is to be built to the bridge, the construction budget of 30 million baht is not enough.

Fishermen, Prospectors Released by Cambodia
BK1803094489 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
1300 GMT 16 Mar 89

[Text] At 1110 this morning, Praphat Bamphensit, deputy governor of Trat Province, presided over a function at the provincial fish pier to receive 167 Thai fishermen who were detained in Cambodia for trespassing into Cambodian waters. Thanit Kraiwut, a member of parliament (MP) of Trat Province, who was authorized by the prime minister to arrange the return of the fishermen with Chairman of the Cambodian National Assembly Chea Sim said the following to newsmen at the fish pier:

[Begin recording] [Thanit] I contacted the Cambodian side, which wanted the contact to be in an official capacity. I and two other MP's were authorized by the prime minister to coordinate with the Cambodian side to obtain the release of the fishermen and escort them back.

[Unidentified newsman] How many were released?

[Thanit] There were 167 fishermen and 92 gem prospectors, making 259 altogether. [end recording]

900 CPM Guerrillas To 'Report' to Authorities
BK1603035989 Bangkok THE NATION in English
16 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] About 900 hard-core members of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) will lay down arms and voluntarily "report" to Thai authorities within three months, a senior army official said yesterday.

"It is most likely that the last wave of (pro-China) CPM guerrillas will report to us to 'join in national development soon'," said Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun, deputy army commander in chief.

Such a mass defection would bring the CPM's decades-old guerrilla war against the Malaysian government very close to an end. Most of the outlawed movement members were pushed across the Malaysian border into Thai jungles following a Malay-British joint military drive nearly half a century ago.

Some groups in the faction-ridden movement, however, are said to be determined to continue the armed struggle against Kuala Lumpur.

A ranking CPM member based in Yala told THE NATION in an interview in a jungle in Betong District of Yala last week there were "quite a number" of guerrillas who would not surrender.

Leaflets published in Thai, Chinese and Malay were circulated in guerrilla-held jungle areas recently calling on CPM members to "hold on to our ideology".

Remaining guerrillas number more than 1,000 and include Malay Muslims and Buddhist Chinese.

Wanchai said army negotiators and CPM leaders have finally "agreed on key issues" after talks on a mass surrender were suspended many times.

He said Lt Gen Wisit Atkhumwong, the commander of the 4th Army Region, would soon set a date for the insurgents to "report" to Thai authorities.

"Now the guerrillas have suspended all arms activities to support continuing negotiations," Wanchai said.

However, he admitted that disagreement remains on "certain conditions". Wanchai said the guerrillas did not want their surrender to be publicized.

Thai authorities holding talks with the guerrillas have avoided using the term "surrender" for fear that the CPM members would be enraged and suspend the negotiations.

The possible mass surrender would cap years of the Thai army's carrot-and-stick tactics that led to a 1987 defection of about 700 members of the CPM's Marxist-Leninist faction. The defectors have been put in resettlement camps in Yala.

M.R. Khukrit Pramot's Condition 'Improving'
BK2003095989 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Mar 89 Afternoon Edition p 2

[Text] M.R. Khukrit Pramot's respiratory system appeared to have nearly returned to normal this morning, although he was still given breathing aid and saline water at the intensive care unit (ICU) of Sametthiwet Hospital, his aides said.

M.R. Khukrit was hospitalized Saturday [18 March] and moved to the ICU yesterday after developing acute respiratory inflammation.

His secretary, Phiasak Techasen, and former secretary Thawisak Pansura visited him and spent about half an hour in the ICU this morning. Emerging from the room, Phiasak said M.R. Khukrit's condition was improving.

"He now has no difficulty in breathing and slept soundly last night," the aide said.

Thawisak said the former premier was still given saline water and respiratory aid. But after medical treatment, he said, M.R. Khukrit's lung remained strong and his blood pressure is normal.

He said that M.R. Khukrit would stay for two more days in the ICU.

Later this morning, Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan visited M.R. Khukrit at the hospital. After staying in the ICU for about fifteen minutes, the minister told reporters that he did not talk to the former premier because he was asleep.

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